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20 PAGES 150 FILLS

## Iraq sees peace, oil plot

BAGHDAD, July 17, (Kuna): President Saddam Hussein of Iraq today reiterated earlier warnings to Israel against trying to force the idea of attacking Iraq and stressed his country was now much stronger than when Israel pounded Baghdad's nuclear reactor in 1981.

Saddam, in an address broadcast nationwide marking the 22nd anniversary of the revolution that brought the Baath Party to power, cited Iraq's technological and industrial advancement as muscles that would enable the country to strike a balance of force with the aggressors.

The Iraqi president, meanwhile, underlined his country's unshaken belief in peace and its sincere desire to achieve it in the region. He said the ceasefire between Iraq and Iran, which went into effect two years ago, was consolidated last year as a prelude to a lasting and all-out peace.

He touched on the smear campaign unleashed by the West and Zionism against Iraq and the Arab nation in general, saying the propaganda onslaught began when Iraq's victory in the Gulf war became too evident to be obscured with Iraq emerging as key Arab force in any potential confrontation with Israel.

Saddam said: "Imperialist and Zionist" powers have so far declined to use military might in the current crusade against Arabs but were instead using such other equally damaging weapons as oil prices.

He said that the West-engineered drop of oil prices to the tune of one dollar per barrel, had slashed some \$14 billion off Iraq's oil revenues in recent years.

The Iraqi president accused the United States of pursuing this "disgraceful" policy, saying Washington resorted to it in an effort to retain an undisputed posture of the sole superpower that can control and dictate the oil market and the fate of commodity exporters.

He said the United States was seeking to build a strategic oil reserve, all that it would be able to have all the strings in its hand, including the ability to control when and how to ignite wars and conflicts in the Arab world.

The Iraqi president cautioned against the marriage between the interest of oil market speculators and traders, saying if such a policy were allowed to go on unchecked, surplus Arab petrodollars would end stashed in US banks.

Oil's value would also be eroded with time and the commodity would be hostage to the American political and financial policies.

Saddam indicated that some of the Arab countries were pursuing an American-inspired oil policy.

He said such policy was too serious to be met with silence and he threatened "effective action that would return things to their natural course and the usurped rights to their owners."

Saddam, who received US backing against Iran in the eight-year Gulf war, accused the United States of trying to dominate the world and become the only superpower following what he called the collapse of the East Bloc.

The Iraqi president's verbal outburst came two days after reports from Washington said the Defence Department was leading efforts to prevent Iraq from importing industrial furnaces that could be used to make components for missiles or nuclear bombs.

Saddam did not single out any Gulf state by name, but last month Iraqi Oil Minister Issam Abdul Rahman Chalabi accused the United Arab Emirates of cheating on a production quota set for it by the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries.

Iranian President Hashemi Rafsanjani today said Iran and Iraq have moved closer toward the Algiers agreement of 1975 during their Geneva peace negotiations.

## Soviet Kirghizia clashes: 27 injured

MOSCOW, July 17, (Reuters): Twenty-seven people have been injured in the Kirghiz city of Osh in a renewal of ethnic riots in the Soviet Central Asian republic which have killed over 200 people in the past six weeks, Tass news agency said today.

"Life in Osh is virtually paralysed. Transport is not working and factories are standing idle," the official agency quoted Lieutenant-General G. Kondratiev as saying of last night's fighting.

Tensions were also high in Azerbaijan's disputed enclave of Nagorno-Karabakh, where hundreds of people have died in the past two years in fighting between Armenians and Azeris.

Police in Osh used truncheons and fired warning shots after gangs of ethnic Uzbeks attacked police and fire stations and set alight seven houses and a school during the fighting.

## 52 killed in Jarjou

PLO move in to halt Amal-Hezb battle

BEIRUT, July 17, (AP): PLO commandos moved in today to halt a savage onslaught by pro-Iranian fundamentalists against Shiite Muslim rivals that killed 52 people and wounded 167 in one day, police said.

Police said Yasser Arafat's commandos intervened after Hezbollah overran the village of Jarjou last night, stripping the Syrian-backed Amal of its main stronghold in Iqlim Al Tuffah, or the Apple province.

### Singh rejects resignations



Chautala quits

Om Prakash Chautala, the chief minister of Haryana, son of Deputy Prime Minister Devi Lal, resigned from his post to defuse major government crisis in New Delhi. (Reuters wirephoto)

### Accord on Polish-German border

PARIS, July 17, (AP): Seven nations reached a historic agreement today settling Poland's border dispute with Germany and clearing the way for German unification by year's end.

The twin actions were announced at a news conference after talks involving the two Germans, Poland, and the four World War II victors — the United States, Soviet Union, Britain and France.

In another important move, West Germany agreed to bold economic assistance talks with Poland later this summer.

Terms of the border settlement were not announced. Polish Foreign Minister Krzysztof Skubiszewski said they were confidential.

Earlier Story Page 7

### Currency Rates

THE Central Bank of Kuwait currency rates against the Kuwaiti dinar on July 17, valued for July 19, 1990.		
Currency	Buying	Selling
US dollar	290.360	291.121
Sterling	222.200	224.050
Deutsche mark	175.250	175.950
Swiss franc	304.450	305.250
French franc	052.250	052.500
Italian lire	0002405	000239
Japanese yen	001970	001960
Bahraini dinar	772.500	770.050
UAE dirham	079.300	077.900
Saudi riyal	077.900	077.700
Qatari riyal	079.700	080.050
Omani riyal	753.950	756.700

Asian currency exchange rates against Kuwaiti dinar:		
Currency	KD	GD
Indian Rs (1,000)	16.630	3,400.000
Pak. Rs	13.430	3,385.000
Sri Lankan Rs	7.280	3,350
Singapore dollar	160.700	3,500
Hong Kong dollar	37.500	3,450
Bangladesh taka	9.705	397.000
Philippine peso	12.660	111.000

Courtesy: Abdalaziz & Ali Al Yousif Al Muzaihi Co.

■ The US dollar fell against the major currencies in European trading on Tuesday in mostly technical trading.

Gold prices also fell.

In London, one British pound cost \$1.8115 late Tuesday, more expensive for buyers than Monday's late \$1.8040.

Other late dollar rates in Europe, compared with late Monday.

■ 1.6455 German marks, down from 1.6535

■ 1.4065 Swiss francs, down from 1.4165

■ 5.5210 French francs, down from 5.5460

■ 8.5522 Dutch guilders, down from 8.6400

■ 1.20512 Canadian lire, down from 1.210.75

■ 1.562 Canadian dollars, down from 1.587.

Earlier in Tokyo the dollar closed at 148.20 Japanese yen, down from 148.43 late Monday. In London late Tuesday the dollar traded higher at 148.32 yen.

The late bid price of gold in London was \$361.25 a troy ounce, down from \$362.75. The late bid price in Zurich was 361.50, down from \$362.70.

Quake toll rises to 234 as more bodies pulled from rubble



An aerial view of the Hyatt Hotel in the northern resort of Baguio City after it collapsed. (Reuters wirephoto)

## Cory declares emergency

US rushes units to hardest-hit areas

MANILA, July 17, (AP): Rescuers searched today for survivors of an earthquake that killed more than 230 people, and faced a shortage of heavy equipment needed to clear tons of debris.

President Corason Aquino visited Cabanatuan city, one of the communities hardest hit by yesterday's temblor, which measured 7.7 on the Richter scale. She declared a state of emergency throughout central Luzon island, where damage was widespread from the strongest earthquake to strike the Philippines in 14 years.

The death toll from the quake rose to 234 as more bodies were pulled from the rubble of collapsed buildings, according to figures compiled by the office of civil defence and the Red Cross.

Hundreds more were injured. Thousands were left homeless. Blood, medicine and food were in short supply in many devastated areas.

"Forever thought in my entire life that I could see such destruction," said Ed Pangilinan, a Defence Department spokesman who toured the ravaged mountain resort of Baguio with Defence Secretary Fidel Ramos.

Pangilinan said people lined the streets begging for food as Ramos' party drove past.

"They're out in the streets waiting for any good news," he said. "We can't do anything."

Manila radio and television stations appealed to listeners to contribute to fund-raising drives for the victims. The temblor's epicentre was 100 kms (60 miles) north of Manila, the capital.

The United States rushed military units to two of the hardest-hit areas with medical supplies and engineering equipment to help clear building rubble. Japan, Canada, Thailand, Switzerland and South Korea also offered disaster aid.

Philippine reporters who visited areas of major damage said there was little sign of a co-ordinated, comprehensive government rescue operation.

Most rescuers were private citizens organised by local civic groups and they weren't trained to cope with major disasters.

Reporters also said rescuers lacked heavy equipment such as cranes to lift debris.

Hardest hit were the cities of Dagupan, 100 miles (160 kms) north of Manila, Cabanatuan about 60 miles (95 kms) northeast of here and Baguio, 110 miles (175 kms) to the north.

In Dagupan, where 20 people were killed, some streets fell as much as two metres (yards) and cars were swallowed up by fissures in the earth.

Today, the United States dispatched navy Seabees, an engineering team and a field hospital to Cabanatuan, where at least 49 people were killed when the six-storey Philippine Christian College collapsed.

Rescuers had pulled 179 people from the rubble as of late today, and Mayor Honorato Perez said about 30 were still believed trapped. Many of the victims were children.

US officials said the teams brought heavy equipment to remove tons of debris. The field hospital included 27 medical technicians to care for the injured, who jammed the city's five civilian clinics.

In Baguio, an air force engineering team joined the search for up to 1,000 people believed still trapped in the rubble of 27 collapsed buildings. US aircraft also were scheduled to fly medical supplies and heavy equipment to Baguio on Wednesday as part of a \$25,000 relief package to the Philippines.

The 27 damaged buildings included four luxury hotels which buckled and cracked under the force of the quake. The entire front section of the Hyatt, which featured a floor-to-roof atrium, tumbled down on the lobby area, trapping an estimated 150 people.

The earthquake caused the catwalks that surrounded a five-storey indoor atrium to collapse, and parts

## Israelis cautious; Syrians willing

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, July 17, (AP): Government officials reacted cautiously but positively today to reports that Israel's most implacable foe, Syria, may be willing to consider peace talks.

Both officials and analysts expressed hope that remarks attributed to Syrian President Hafez Al Assad were a sign that Syria was changing its stance to talk of peace instead of war.

The comments were followed by a report yesterday by the Paris-based Radio Monte Carlo that Assad indicated willingness to join peace negotiations on condition Israel withdraws from the Golan Heights, which were captured from Syria in the 1967 Middle East war, and agrees to an international conference on the region.

Monte Carlo said Assad's statements came during his historic three-day meeting in Alexandria with Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak.

At a news conference in Alexandria, Assad said he and Mubarak "are not in disagreement on the importance that there should be a serious move toward peace." He said he was ready to play a role in the peace process if unspecified "circumstances" came about.

Assad said he accepted UN Security Council Resolution 242 and 338, which call for Israel's withdrawal from land occupied in the 1967 war and security guarantees for all countries in the region, including Israel.

Israeli newspapers today, however, all quoted the Monte Carlo report with more specific statements about willingness to join in peace talks.

The papers speculated that the response may have been to a secret Israeli peace initiative relayed through Mubarak.

## Special plan on the anvil for lifting of censorship

AMMAN, July 17, (Kuna): Kuwaiti Minister of Information Sheikh Jaber Mubarak Al Sabah said that Kuwait's new National Council represents a transitional period towards the revival of full-fledged parliamentary life.

In an interview with the Jordanian daily Al Dastour published today, Sheikh Jaber reiterated earlier assertions that the transitional period would not exceed the council term as the council was originally launched to set the stage for the return of the Kuwaiti parliament, suspended in 1986.

The minister's remarks were also published in Beirut's Al Anwar daily.

On the lifting of censorship on the Kuwait press, Sheikh Jaber said that he had been assigned by the council of ministers to prepare a special plan for this purpose, to be added that his ministry is already working on it.

Sheikh Jaber, however, defended censorship saying it helped achieve a measure of balance that preserved internal security.

The Kuwaiti official said that the government financially supports all local newspapers and magazines ensuring that the press mirrors the points of view of all the different groups of people in the society.

Answering a question about Arab media facing the Zionist propaganda, the Kuwaiti minister said that the Arab press is progressing slowly in meeting its goals and that "we should not overlook the fact that the Zionist media objectives are being implemented and followed up by one source with one policy while the Arab media represent more than 30 antitheses of various interests."

The Kuwaiti minister of information expressed his hope for the progress of the Arab media and

(Continued on Page 11)

(Continued on Page 6)

هكزلن لاصم

INTERNATIONAL

# How long can Singh's minority government last?

NEW DELHI, July 17, (Reuters): A bitter power struggle has exposed the leadership weakness of Indian Prime Minister Vishwanath Pratap Singh and called into question his ability to keep his minority government in power, diplomats said today.

Although Singh emerged victorious from a confrontation with his deputy, he handled the crisis badly and may yet face another challenge, they said.

The question has to be asked now how long this government can last, because it has looked very foolish over the last few days and Singh himself

must have lost credibility," said one senior Western envoy.

"He did not handle the crisis at all well and came up with a patchwork solution that is not going to last because his style of leadership makes him vulnerable to this kind of power play," the diplomat said.

Singh, who quit the long dominant Congress Party because "expressing an opinion was regarded as a sin," swept to power at the head of a disparate opposition coalition in December less than three years later, promising a new era of politics.

No longer would dissent be stifled, corruption would be eradicated, nepotism abolished, and politics would be based on issues not personalities, he declared.

The crisis that ended on Monday night began with a revolt from close colleagues furious over Singh's inaction as Deputy Prime Minister Devi Lal managed the return to power of his eldest son as chief minister of Haryana state.

Om Prakash Chautala had been forced out of the job in May by a furious outcry in Singh's Janata Dal party, led by Singh himself, over his alleged respon-

sibility for by-election violence in which 13 people were killed.

Led by Arun Nehru and Arif Mohammad Khan, 13 ministers offered their resignations, rejected once the crisis was over, saying Chautala's return was against everything the party stood for and that Devi Lal's ambitions must be crushed.

One close colleague, who asked not to be identified, defended Singh's initial inaction, saying he was caught in a "genuine dilemma" between his own political values and a belief that he should not intervene in state politics.

"It is not a departure from value-based politics to be caught in a conflict of values," the colleague said.

Singh has said repeatedly he does not wish to be the traditional Indian leader who imposes his views, saying that is anti-democratic. He says he prefers to "manage contradictions" inevitable in politics rather than issue directives.

The crisis, however, brought sharp criticism from one newspaper that swung its support behind him for those views during the campaign for last November's general elections.

"It is for him to summon the will to lead rather

than be buffeted by diverse and even conflicting forces from within his own ranks," the Times of India said in an editorial.

Criticism is also emerging from the upper echelons of those ranks. One former close colleague accused Singh of seeking to hold on to power in contradiction to his stated values.

"One by one he has picked off and undermined his closest supporters while letting Devi Lal do what he likes," said the source, who asked not to be identified.



Police try to hold back supporters of V.P. Singh outside his house. (Reuters wirephoto)



Devi Lal (centre) with S.R. Bommai (left) and Om Prakash Chautala (right) after the talks in New Delhi. (Reuters wirephoto)

## Hukam Singh new CM

### V.P. Singh rejects resignation of 13 ministers

By Thomas Abraham  
Arab Times correspondent

NEW DELHI, July 17: After being in office for just five days, during which he almost brought about the collapse of Prime Minister V. P. Singh's government, Om Prakash Chautala resigned today as chief minister of Haryana.

This morning, Haryana Janata Dal legislators met and elected Hukam Singh as their new leader. He was deputy chief minister in Chautala's short-lived ministry.

In the evening today, Hukam Singh was sworn in here as chief minister of Haryana by Governor Dhanik Lal Mandal. Along with him, ten cabinet ministers also took oath of office and secrecy.

V.P. Singh reassembled his full cabinet today rejecting the resignations of 13 ministers.

Singh asked the ministers to resume work immediately.

"The government work should not suffer" because of the political infighting which paralyzed the ruling coalition for four days, Indian news agencies quoted Singh as saying.

## Benazir claims Islamic support

### 'India failed to mislead'

ISLAMABAD, July 17, (Reuters): Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto said today she had won international Islamic support for Pakistan in its stand-off with New Delhi over the Muslim uprising in Indian-ruled Kashmir.

Benazir told a news conference she was "deeply satisfied" with her two recent trips to 14 Muslim states, which were aimed at building support for Pakistan before talks are held this week with India on reducing tensions.

"The hiatus that had unfortunately crept into Pakistan's relations with some Arab countries has been removed," she said.

"Serving the cause of Kashmir has also permitted serving the larger cause of Islamic unity."

Benazir returned yesterday from a six-day trip to Iraq, Kuwait, Morocco, Algeria and Bahrain. In May she visited nine other countries, including Iran and Saudi Arabia.

"The ruthless regime in Kashmir has denied access to the world media," Benazir said. "But India has failed to mislead the world."

She said her discussions with Muslim leaders had resulted in "a broad consensus of how the Kashmir issue should be handled."

Benazir said she hoped talks on Wednesday and Thursday between the foreign secretaries of the two countries would be "the beginning of a meaningful and constructive dialogue to remove the causes of the present tension."

Benazir returned to Pakistan one day after a string of bomb blasts in her home province of Sind.

At the news conference she said foreign-trained saboteurs were active in the country.

She did not name any country, but officials have in the past accused India of trying to stir up trouble in Pakistan in retaliation for Islamabad's support for Muslim separatists in Jammu and Kashmir.

"We have received reports that trained saboteurs have been sent into Pakistan," she said when talking about Sind.

## 150 held in rash of Sind bombing

ISLAMABAD, July 17, (Reuters): Pakistani authorities have detained 150 people suspected of involvement in a rash of bombings in the southern city of Hyderabad on Sunday which police said killed 43 people.

Officials today said 150 people had been detained throughout Sind province, with 88 detentions in Hyderabad division, which includes Hyderabad city. The suspects are all being interrogated, they said.

They said those held included prominent members of the Jiy Sind National Movement, a nationalist Sindhi group, which had called a protest strike on Hyderabad on Sunday.

On Sunday, five bombs exploded in different areas of Hyderabad, killing dozens of people and causing panic through crowded bazaars.

One bomb went off in a moving railway carriage some 25 kilometres (15 miles) north of Hyderabad, killing 16 people.

Witnesses said one of the blasts, which police said were caused by home-made bombs hidden in cooking oil tins, left a crater three feet (one metre) wide in the roadway.

Gambettes between rival ethnic groups were later reported in several parts of the city.

Police said today the death toll from the blasts had grown to 43 but added the figure would probably rise.

"Many victims were simply blown to bits, so it is difficult to identify them," one police spokesman said.

Jiy Sind had earlier declared Sunday a "Black Day" in Hyderabad and called for a strike to protest what it called the police torture of one of its members who was arrested in May on suspicion of involvement in an earlier massacre.

Jiy Sind on Monday released a statement accusing the Pakistan People's Party (PPP) of Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto of planning the explosions to sabotage its protest.

The main Mohajir group, the Mohajir Qasbi Movement (MQM), also accused the PPP of involvement in the blasts, which it described as part of a concerted anti-Mohajir campaign.

## Mustapha Assad elected next IAA World President



entire career has been spent shaping the future of communication and advertising in the Middle East.

Mr Assad who founded Publicis in 1973 is presently the President and Chief Executive Officer. He was also the former president of the Lebanese IAA chapter and Vice-President/Area Director for the Middle East and Africa. During the conference Mr Assad, as Chairman of the Awards Committee, presented the 'IAA Award' for what was earlier known as the 'Man of the Year' to Mr Helmut Maucher, Chairman and C.E.O. of Nestle, S.A.

As the next World President Mr Assad's first initiative has been to create, on behalf of the Middle East Council, the Samir Fares Award in memory of the late Samir Fares. This award will be presented every two years to the personality who has made a significant contribution towards the evolution and progress of communication and advertising in the world... thereby fulfilling and furthering the IAA aims and objectives. This year's recipient was Mr Claude Chauvet, who received the award in recognition of his great effort towards facilitating the role of advertising through education.

Also on the agenda for the Congress was the election of the Board of Directors for the next two years. Elected to the new board from the Middle East and Africa were Mr Talal Al Dulaymi (Saudi Arabia), Mrs Lulu Zakhama (Egypt), Mr Razmi Raad (UAE), Mr Walid Asai (Lebanon) and Mr Falomo (Nigeria).

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## Indians asked not to visit N-E Lanka

### 50 Tamils hacked to death: 'War must end,' says LTTE leader

COLOMBO, July 17, (Kuna): All Indian citizens living in Sri Lanka have been asked not to go to the northern and the eastern provinces of the island.

A notice to this effect issued here today by the Indian High Commission (embassy) and appeared in all the newspapers in the island stated that if any Indian citizen in Sri Lanka wishes to go to these provinces, it should not be done without the knowledge of the Indian High Commission.

However, the reason for this has not been stated.

There are about 60,000 Indian citizens living in Sri Lanka.

General secretary of the Ceylon Workers' Congress, dominated by persons of Indian origin, and State Minister of Transport, M.S. Sellasamy, who is of Indian origin, speaking in the island's Parliament today asked, while in India recently, why the chief minister of India's Tamil Nadu state Muthuvelu Karunanidhi cannot find out the views of the Sri Lankan Tamil groups and convey them to the island's government to find a political solution to the Sri Lankan-Tamil problem instead of holding such hartals (boycott campaigns) as planned by Karunanidhi for July 20.

Meanwhile, member of the Eelam People's Revolutionary Liberation Party in Parliament, Suresh Premachandran, told the house today that according to his information over 2,000 innocent civilians have died in the eastern province since the war between the Sri Lankan forces and the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) started on June 11. "This war has to be brought to an end soon," he said.

In the eastern province, 50 Tamils were hacked to death yesterday in Akkarapattu village, people who arrived in Colombo from there said. No one was mentioned as being responsible for the killing.

It was in the same village that a few days ago 168 Muslims were killed.

Thirty members of the LTTE were killed in the eastern province today at Wellaweli village during a confrontation between the Sri Lankan forces and the LTTE, according to a security source.

## V. P. Singh to visit Moscow

Indian Prime Minister Vishwanath Pratap Singh will visit the Soviet Union later this month, the official Tass news agency said yesterday.

Tass gave no details of Singh's visit.

The Soviet Union and India are close allies and trading partners. Trade between the two countries was worth more than 2.9 billion roubles (\$4.64 billion) in 1989, according to official Soviet figures. (Reuters)

## Union Carbide case resumed

The Supreme Court yesterday resumed hearing appeals against last year's \$470-million settlement between the Indian government and Union Carbide Corp. for the 1984 Bhopal gas disaster.

Attorney-General Soli Sorabjee argued for overturning the settlement, reflecting the current government's view that the amount agreed to by the government of former Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi was inadequate.

Union Carbide, a Danbury, Connecticut-based multinational, says the deal is fair and binding.

## Pakistan fires first satellite

Pakistan's first experimental weather satellite was fired on Monday into orbit from a launching pad inside China, official news agency AFP reported.

In a dispatch from its Beijing correspondent APP said that the satellite, code-named Badar-One was launched into space from Ki Chiang station, 2,000 kms from the capital Beijing.

Made entirely by Pakistani engineers working in the country's space research station Suparco in Karachi, the weather satellite was fired into space on a Chinese-built rocket "Long March 2E".

According to APP the satellite was designed, among other things, to improve weather information collection in Pakistan. It said it was orbiting the Earth every 98 minutes.

## Sweden protests to Iraq

Sweden delivered a protest to the Iraqi charge d'affaires in Stockholm yesterday over the hanging of a Swedish citizen in Baghdad last week.

Jahid Mehal Al Neamy, an Iraqi-born naturalised Swede, was convicted of spying for Israel and executed on July 11, after spending nine months in a Baghdad jail.

Spokesman Bo Heinbeck said the Foreign Ministry had called in Charge d'Affaires Mohammed Said Hani "so that Sweden could bring home how seriously the government looks upon the execution of Al Neamy."

Sweden delivered its protest following a meeting earlier yesterday between Foreign Minister Sten Andersson and Sweden's ambassador to Iraq, Henrik Amneus, who was recalled for consultations after the execution. (Reuters)

## 6,000-year-old sites unearthed

Iranian archaeologists have unearthed historical sites containing valuable relics, some dating back 6,000 years or more, the Islamic Republic News Agency reported yesterday.

The agency, monitored in Nicosia, said the sites were discovered in the Robat Karim region, 45 kms (28 miles) southwest of the capital, Tehran.

They comprise ancient hills, shrines, cemeteries, villages and forts, Iran said.

It quoted the head of Tehran's Centre for Cultural Heritage, identified only as Talbolaghi, as saying one of the more valuable relics included a clay artefact engraved with a picture of two men using an ox to plough land.

## King Hassan urged to pardon prisoners

Members of Morocco's royal council urged King Hassan of Morocco to pardon political prisoners convicted of crimes against state security, officials said yesterday.

But some of the 38 members of the Consultative Council on Human Rights, appointed by the king in April, oppose a royal pardon, the Interior Ministry told reporters yesterday.

A council report said the final decision remained with King Hassan and it "could only be just and equitable."

## Extradition

A Soviet youth who hijacked a domestic Soviet airliner to Sweden last month was extradited to the Soviet Union yesterday.

Dmitry Semionov, 17, was believed the first person to be extradited from Sweden to the Soviet Union since the end of World War II, when some Baltic refugees were sent back.

Semionov was the first of five young Soviet men who hijacked five domestic airliners to Sweden and Finland beginning June 9. The hijackers surrendered peacefully to police and said they wanted to stay in the Nordic countries.

Picture shows Oleg Kozlov, who was alleged with the hijacking of a Aeroflot flight to Helsinki appears in court. (Reuters wirephoto)

## Donors to aid Libya

Plan to wipe out flesh-eating pest

ROME, July 17, (Reuters): Donor countries agreed today to fund an emergency multi-million dollar plan to wipe out a deadly, flesh-eating parasite threatening humans and livestock in Africa, Europe and the Middle East.

Experts have said the American Screw-worm fly, unknown outside the Americas until 1988, could spread any time from north-west Libya to nearby continents or to sub-Saharan Africa. The fly lays eggs in wounds of both animals and humans.

A spokesman for the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) said \$31 million were promised by countries and international organisations at a Rome conference.

"It is a most crucial initiative — a programme to prevent an impending disaster of epidemic proportions before it is too late to do anything but surrender to its onslaught," said IFAD President Idriss Jazairy.

The blue-green fly with bulging orange eyes lays hundreds of eggs in wounds in warm-blooded animals.

## Jordan seeks finance for dam

Jordanian Water and Irrigation Minister Daoud Khalaf said yesterday Jordan might seek alternative financiers for the construction of the northern Al Wahda Dam, because the World Bank has stalled for 10 years.

"We have been waiting for an answer from the World Bank... for almost a decade now," Khalaf told the Associated Press in an interview.

But he said the bank "is still requesting an environmental study which Jordan provided 10 years ago and updated recently."

The minister said the potential financier was also insisting on discussing sharing the dam water with other countries, "rendering the negotiations difficult and rather complicated."

## Czechoslovak diplomats recalled

The Czech government forced two Czechoslovak diplomats to leave earlier this year, reportedly because of their attempts to get Nato decisions, according to Foreign Ministry and press reports on Monday.

A Foreign Ministry spokeswoman said one of the diplomats left early this year and the other in early June after their recall was requested by the Czech government.

"The two Czechoslovak diplomats... were engaged in activities which did not conform with their status," the spokeswoman told the Associated Press, using the diplomatic parlance which refers to espionage activities. (AP)

## Europe

### UK crown jewellers sold

The British royal family's favourite jewellers, Garrard, was sold to luxury goods firm Asprey Plc yesterday as part of a £75 million (\$135 million) takeover deal.

Asprey said it agreed to buy the Mappin and Webb jewellery and silver group, which owns the crown jewellers Garrard, from the Sears Plc department store chain.

Asprey's swoop on Garrard followed two raids on Asprey in which criminals made off with gems worth millions.

The fashionable central London store was the victim of a smash-and-grab raid on Monday in which robbers rammed a lorry into a display window and snatched a necklace reported to be worth nearly £750,000 (\$1.35 million).

Last month an estimated £1.8 million (\$3.2 million) in jewels was stolen from the same shop in New Bond Street by a group posing as customers. (Reuters)

### French police nab burglar

French police have tracked down a small-time burglar with a habit of stopping off for a snack in the kitchens of homes he raided in this Brittany town.

On his latest outing, the burglar with a large appetite left behind his false teeth. Police said yesterday they identified him from dentists' records. (Reuters)

### Havel wanted by law officials

Wanted by the Czech Ministry of Justice Vclav Havel. For at least one bureaucrat within the ministry, Havel remains an enemy of the state and a former convict instead of the president of the nation.

The Daily Mlada Fronta newspaper printed on Monday the facsimile of a message from the Ministry of Justice to the Criminal Department of Prague police asking for information on the "whereabouts of a Vclav Havel, born Oct 6, 1936."

The suspect "moved without notifying the authorities," the daily quoted the request, dated May 2, as saying.

Havel was jailed for 4 1/2 years by communists during the 20 years he acted as a human rights activist and dissident under Czechoslovakia's harsh communist regime. (AP)

### UK customs seize stimulant

British officers raided a boat and seized about 60 kgs of amphetamine sulfate — with an estimated street value of \$18 million — in the largest-ever capture of the stimulant in Britain, officials said yesterday.

Customs officials said the late Monday raid resulted in the arrests of 11 people and was the culmination of a three-month-long operation that involved Dutch and French police.

Officials said boats and aircraft tracked the British-registered vessel Meritulus from the Dutch port of Vlissingen to the French coastal town of Dunkirk, and then across the English Channel and into British waters. (UPI)

### Cosmonauts walk in space

Two cosmonauts walked in space yesterday to try to repair thermal insulation that has partially ripped apart and could interfere with their safe return to earth. Soviet news media reported.

Cosmonauts Anatoly Solovoyev and Alexander Balandin opened the hatch of the Mir Space Station at 5:20 pm Moscow time (13:20 GMT) as the orbiting spacecraft entered the shadow of the earth, Radio Moscow reported.

They moved along the outside of the station to their Soyuz TM-9 capsule, which is docked to the Mir, to inspect and make decisions on whether they could repair the thermal insulation, the radio report said. (AP)

## Imelda to testify about Westinghouse plant

NEW YORK, July 17, (Reuters): Former Philippine first lady Imelda Marcos will testify before a US grand jury investigating construction of a nuclear power plant Westinghouse Electric Corp. built in the Philippines in the 1980s, a lawyer said.

James Linn, who said he may represent Imelda in the matter, said she had received a subpoena but had not been told the purpose of the investigation. "I don't know anything about it and neither does she," Linn said.

The wording of the subpoena indicates the grand jury may be investigating alleged kickbacks tied to the construction of the plant.

Linn said Imelda will appear before the grand jury in Pittsburgh on September 25. A grand jury decides whether to bring charges based on evidence presented by the state.

Imelda was acquitted earlier this month of racketeering charges that accused her of helping her late husband steal more than \$200 million from their country to buy New York

real estate and art.

Former Philippine leader Ferdinand Marcos, who was ousted from power in 1986, died last September. The Marcoses were still in power when the power plant was built.

The Pittsburgh subpoena, dated July 11, instructs Imelda to bring documents relating to the payment of commissions or "anything of value" by Westinghouse or Burns and Roe, a subcontractor for the project, to the Marcoses or their agents since January 1, 1973.

## Contractors to be prosecuted

LONDON, July 17, (UPI): The government has charged the five British construction companies of the Anglo-French consortium building the channel tunnel with violating safety laws in an accident that killed a tunnel worker last year, officials said today.

The health and safety executive, a government-appointed agency that oversees enforcement of occupational safety rules, said the companies failed to ensure the safety of Gary Woodward, 32, who was crushed between the tunnel boring machine and other equipment on Oct 23, 1989.

HSE spokesman Mark Wheeler said Woodward's death brought to six the number of workers killed since January 1989 on the British side of 31-mile (50 km) channel tunnel.

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# Central Park jogger testifies; 'I can't remember anything'

NEW YORK, July 17, (AP): The female jogger who was gang-raped and beaten nearly to death by a mob of teenagers in Manhattan's Central Park last year testified yesterday that she cannot remember anything about the attack.

The assault on the white investment banker drew wide attention in the United States, where her case became a

symbol of urban crime.

The jogger also said she has difficulty seeing, cannot smell at all and has trouble walking. Her testimony lasted about 10 minutes. There was no cross-examination by attorneys for three of the teenagers accused of attacking her.

The witness, who prosecutors say was left for dead in the April 19, 1989, attack, has a ragged scar beginning

above her left eyebrow and extending down her left cheek. She walked shakily to the stand.

Three blacks youths — 15-year-old Antron McCray and 16-year-olds Raymond Santana and Yusef Salaam — are on trial on charges of attempted murder, rape, sexual abuse, assault, robbery and riot in the attack on the woman and two male joggers. Three

other youths are scheduled to be tried later.

After what doctors called a remarkable recovery, the woman, now 29, returned to her job at the investment banking firm of Salomon Brothers.

"Do you suffer any lasting injuries as a result of what happened to you on April 19, 1989?" asked assistant district attorney Elizabeth Lederer.

"I have problems with balance when I'm walking, and co-ordination. At times, I'll veer off to the right or the left," she said. "I have trouble walking down steps. I also lost my sense of smell completely. That has not come back."

Lederer showed the woman the T-shirt, now almost completely brown with dried blood, that she wore when she was attacked while she was running.

Doctors have said she lost three-quarters of her blood before she was found hours after the attack.

"Do you recognise this?" Lederer asked the woman.

"That's the shirt that I used to wear," she replied.

"Prior to April 19, 1989, what colours was it?" Lederer asked.

"It was white," she answered.

## Hormone therapy cuts hip fractures

PHILADELPHIA, July 17, (AP): Hormone replacement therapy can sharply reduce the risk of hip fractures in women during and after menopause, according to a study of more than 23,000 women.

Researchers found that a combination treatment of estrogen and progestin could reduce the risk of hip fracture by as much as 60 per cent, while estrogen alone cut the risk in half, according to a report in Sunday's issue of the journal of internal medicine.

Progestin is used in combination with estrogen because it helps protect against uterine cancer, a potential side-effect of estrogen treatment. But its effectiveness in helping to prevent hip fractures was uncertain before the study by the university hospital in Uppsala, Sweden.

The hormone therapy was most effective when begun at menopause and least effective when begun after age 60. The hormones prevent osteoporosis, a condition that causes bone loss, particularly in older women.

The researchers, led by Dr Tord Naessén, said the combination therapy appeared to preserve bone mass for at least three years.

Naessén said the group was surprised the therapy appeared to have little effect on women over 60. But he pointed out that the older women in the study were treated with less potent estrogen and the tendency to fall increases with age.

## Pays \$54,000 for number plate

LONDON, July 17, (Reuters): A British businessman paid the price of a luxury car yesterday for one of the ultimate yuppie accessories, a personalised number plate which spells "FAX IT."

The chairman of a television firm, who preferred anonymity, paid £30,000 (\$54,000) at an auction in Britain where personalised plates are regarded as a status symbol.

"FAX IT" was the most costly plate at the fourth government sale of unleased number plates bringing total sales so far to £9 million pounds (\$16.2 million).



An injured firefighter is carried into an ambulance outside the Empire State Building during a fire that injured some 25 firefighters on Monday. The fire began in the world's most famous skyscraper on the 51st floor. (Reuters wirephoto)

## Empire State fire, 38 injured

'It felt like a blowtorch'

NEW YORK, July 17, (Reuters): A fire which began in an office halfway up the Empire State Building sent 31 firefighters and 7 civilians to hospital and blew out windows 51 stories high, sending shattered glass onto the pavement, officials said.

"There was a wall of fire when we got there," Charles Casper, Captain of Special Operations, told Reuters yesterday. "It was extremely hot. It's an old building, heavy concrete construction which creates and retains heat. With the wind blowing through, it was like a blowtorch. It felt like a blowtorch."

Fire authorities had not determined the origin of the fire.

Passersby said glass had blown out of the building clear across 34th Street, a main thoroughfare, and that terrified pedestrians had scattered below as the five-alarm blaze spread through the 51st floor of the world's most famous skyscraper.

Casper told Reuters the fire was one of the worst he had ever seen and described how two of his colleagues emerged from the burning floor.

"There was one kid who came out of there. He was screaming in pain. I don't know who he was, but he was burning up."

"It was like an oven, like a blowtorch in your face," Casper added. "It was one of the toughest fires I've ever fought."

Huge clouds of smoke billowed up to other floors, prompting panic calls from people still in the building just before 7 pm EDT (2300 GMT).

Thomas Doyle, head of Emergency Medical Services, said that about 25 firefighters had been injured, two seriously. Many were treated for burns and smoke inhalation and the most serious cases were taken to Cornell Medical Burn Centre.

John Chastre, a tourist from Paris, said he had been on the 86th floor observatory of the 102-storey skyscraper when the fire broke out. He said he and his family walked down eight floors and reached ground level by elevator.

"It was quite frightening," Chastre said.

Fire department officials upgraded the blaze to five-alarm from three alarm status because of fears that hundreds of people had been trapped. Officials said they would comb the 1,250 foot (381 metre) tall landmark building twice to make sure no one was trapped.

## NZ stabber hospitalised

AUCKLAND, New Zealand, July 17, (UPI): A female psychiatric patient yesterday ran amok in the courtyard of an Auckland Jewish school yelling anti-Semitic slogans and stabbing four small boys with a kitchen knife before being restrained by a teacher and a parent.

A police spokesman today said the attack happened as the pupils of Kadimah College, in the grounds of the Central Auckland Orthodox Synagogue, were arriving for class.

The woman walked in from the street past the one teacher on duty and began yelling the slogans as she lunged at the children, a police spokesman said.

The injured boys — six-year-old twins Nicholas and Samuel Henderson, Simon Clarke, also six, and Damien Brie, eight — are all in Auckland hospital in serious but satisfactory condition.

One of the boys has a punctured lung, one was stabbed in the stomach and another received serious injuries to his back and shoulder.

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## PEOPLE AND PLACES

NAPLES, Italy: Frustrated by the legions of Italian tax evaders, revenue agents have taken a new tack — boarding luxury boats to see if the owners' income declarations are as high as their lifestyles.

Rail state television reported Monday that treasury officers checked 217 yachts anchored in the Bay of Naples over the weekend. The report didn't say how many tax evaders were discovered by the visits. But among the yacht owners was a man who had described himself in tax forms as a Naples street vendor with few earnings, Rai said.

The government has declared war on tax evasion in an attempt to trim a budget deficit expected to reach 150 billion lire (\$125 billion) by year's end. (AP)

ROME, Italy: The former queen of Italy wants the government to pay her husband's war pension and interest dating back to 1945, before the royal family was forced into exile, news reports said Sunday.

Maria Jose's husband, the former King Umberto II, died in 1983. During World War II, he commanded the Italian forces on the southern front. He resigned for 26 days before the monarchy was abolished in a 1946 referendum.

Italian newspapers said the pension claim by Umberto's widow, who lives in Switzerland, will be evaluated by the council of state. Under the constitution, however, the wealth of former royals was to be confiscated.

There was no indication of how much money the claim involved. A constitutional ban on Maria Jose's entry into Italy was lifted in 1987 and she has since visited the country. The couple's son, Victor Emmanuel, has been campaigning for permission to return to Italy.

Kings from the Piedmont-based House of Savoy ruled Italy from 1861-1946. (AP)

LOS ANGELES: The US west coast has its own curious crime response to New York City's blowgun-toting Dartman: Los Angeles has the manhole man.

Less violent but no less offbeat than the Manhattan daredevil, an unknown culprit has lifted 150 manhole covers in the past week, officials say.

Manhole man has created gaping traffic hazards around town and it will cost \$14,596 to replace the heisted hole covers, said Deborah Biegl, city bureau of sanitation director.

The motive for stealing the hunks of metal is known only to manhole man, he said.

New York's so-called dartman stalked well-dressed women in midtown Manhattan this summer, targeting their backsides with his homemade barb-pointed needle darts.

Police made an arrest in the case after 52 attacks. His victims were not seriously injured. (AP)

ABILENE, Kansas: President Dwight D. Eisenhower's granddaughter Anne did not want him to speak at her high school graduation, and neither did some of her classmates.

"I wanted to keep him for myself, as my grandfather — not as the president," she recalled Saturday at a one-day conference bringing together some of the descendants of former presidents. The event in the town where Eisenhower grew up was part of a celebration of the centennial of his birthday.

Ms Eisenhower said some classmates were upset about the president's visit because "they thought the attention would go to him, and not to them on their graduation."

But Eisenhower was a bit with the crowd when he said, "ankles are neat, but knees will always be knobby," his granddaughter recalled. (AP)

ESSEX, Connecticut: Television reporter Charles Kuralt has turned down a request by a group of archaeologists to dig up the front lawn of his vacation house.

In a letter to Wesleyan University archaeology professor John Pfeiffer, the CBS newsmen told the scholars he is not interested in what might lie beneath the lush, green turf. Pfeiffer said Saturday.

Pfeiffer is leading a crew of Wesleyan University graduate students who are excavating sections of an 18th- and 19th-century industrial complex at the mouth of Falls River in Essex. They believe Kuralt's lawn, several hundred yards upstream from the site, could hold clues to the development of the area as a 19th-century ivory processing centre.

The professor said Kuralt believed his property had held nothing more than a bicycle factory. (AP)

ABOARD THE YANKEE CAPTAINS: A whale that got tangled in a fishing net was freed Monday by scientists who rushed to its aid aboard a flotilla of research boats and private craft.

"It's swimming free into the sunset," said Tom Hill, captain of the Yankee Captains, as the 26-ton mammal spouted and splashed into the open sea.

The 5-year-old, 40-foot (12-metre) long humpback had been tangled for most of the day in a fishing net.

The humpback, nicknamed Mallard by whale watchers, was discovered thrashing in the water off Massachusetts. (AP)

## Record French students pass Bac

PARIS, July 17, (Reuters): A record number of French teenagers passed the 1990 Baccalaureat, the annual examination for school-leavers, but students are complaining the "Bac" is simple compared to what comes next.

Figures released by the French Education Ministry yesterday showed that 73.1 per cent of the half-million students who sat the tests passed, bringing tears of joy from successful candidates but a headache for university administrators.

The annual sight of students queuing all night outside university faculties forced the French government to computerise entrance applications this year, but technology could not eliminate the chaos.

At Nanterre University in the western suburbs of Paris, police were called in last week when students protested after discovering the computerised system had failed to register their applications.

Long queues also built up outside the Sorbonne University in central Paris as youngsters sought to register for studies of their favourite subject.

Thousands of students are forced every year, despite high marks at school, to settle for university studies of subjects they never had any intention to take. Youngsters fresh from passing their "Bac" can be seen weeping outside faculty buildings when told they have not been admitted.

The Socialist government has pledged to increase university places, but is fighting a losing battle because of an increase in the student population combined with a higher Baccalaureat pass rate.

About 60 per cent of students passed the examination in the 1960s, and the figure has risen every year since then. About 30,000 more students passed the Baccalaureat this year than in 1989.

Some academics have criticised the examination as too easy, saying scholars have failed to match the better quality of French "lycees" with tougher questions.

The Baccalaureat is split into eight sections. Students either choose a generalised or a specific scientific "Bac."

The 1990 results showed a surprise increase in the number of students who passed the prestigious "C" section, based on mathematics and physics.

## America

### Educational skills decline

WASHINGTON, July 17, (Kansu): American high school graduates entering the workforce cannot read, write or reason well, say about 64 per cent of human resources officers for major US companies.

A poll of these officers for 1,200 of America's major corporations also shows that the educational skills of graduates have declined in the last five years.

The survey was commissioned by the National Alliance of Business.

According to the study, the reason for the widening gap is twofold: not only have educational levels slipped, but many of the jobs in these companies have become more complicated.

Other countries do a much better job of training workers, the survey's authors say.

Among the other findings of the study is that 75 per cent of these officers interviewed think education in general has not kept up with national technological growth in the US while 72 per cent think new employees' math skills have worsened.

## FDA warns fish oil firms

WASHINGTON, July 17, (AP): A federal US agency has told about 60 makers of fish oil capsules to stop claiming that their products can help lower cholesterol and the chance of heart attacks.

The Food and Drug Administration warned the firms that although some studies showed that some levels of fish oil might help lower cholesterol, the amounts in a typical capsule were too small to support this claim.



## Hospitalised briefly

Singer Harry Belafonte was admitted to Good Samaritan Hospital Monday after experiencing chest pains in his hotel room but was released later in the day, a hospital administrator said.

Belafonte, 63, was admitted for tests at 6 am after being transferred from nearby Los Gatos Community Hospital where his condition was assessed by a cardiologist, said administrator Truman Gates.

Belafonte became ill in his hotel room after appearing at a concert at a local winery.

A spokeswoman for Good Samaritan said Belafonte was discharged at about 4 pm.



## Never missed a cue

Foolage from Marilyn Monroe's last film shows the star never missed a cue, contradicting reports that she was in a drug-induced stupor during the last weeks of her life, according to a US television magazine.

A US television network, Fox, is scrambling to prepare footage from "Something's Got to Give," for a prime-time entertainment news special tentatively scheduled to air Aug 4, TV Guide said.

The date is the 28th anniversary of the blonde movie star's death in 1962, TV Guide reported in its July 21 edition.

Those who have seen the footage say Monroe never missed a cue, the magazine reported.

But others interviewed for the special said Monroe, who died of a drug overdose before the movie was finished, was losing control of her private life during filming. The film was never completed. (Reuters wirephoto)

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# Asylum-seekers leave embassy

12 Cubans give up to authorities voluntarily

MEXICO CITY, July 17. (Agencies): Twelve Cuban asylum-seekers have abandoned the Czechoslovak embassy in Havana voluntarily, but the terms of their agreement to leave are unclear, according to news reports today.

Cuba's official Prensa Latina news agency said the communist government would never accept "pressure or blackmail of any kind" by people seeking to leave the country.

The Cubans have left voluntarily and given themselves up to the authorities, the Cuban Foreign Ministry said today.

The 12, some of whom took Czechoslovak diplomats hostage on

Monday and demanded a flight to the United States, would not be punished as they had given themselves up unconditionally, a ministry statement said.

"It has been demonstrated once again that the Cuban government will not accept pressure or blackmail of any kind wherever it comes from," the statement added.

The Foreign Ministry said the Czechoslovak embassy had violated Cuban laws and exceeded its diplomatic rights by granting refuge to the 12 Cubans in the first place.

At least eight other would-be emigrants were reported holed up into diplomatic compounds after all 12 asylum-seekers left the Czechoslovak embassy last evening. The first Cubans had arrived there July 9.

The Cuban government earlier had refused to negotiate with seven of the asylum-seekers in the embassy who had threatened to blow up the building unless they were allowed to go to the United States.

Prensa Latina quoted a Cuban Foreign Ministry statement as saying the asylum-seekers would be returned to their homes upon completion of an investigation to clarify the circumstances surrounding the incident.

Prensa Latina, monitored in Mexico City, quoted the government as saying "Czechoslovak diplomatic representatives have tried to call these elements political refugees despite our having informed them that these people are not the object of persecution."

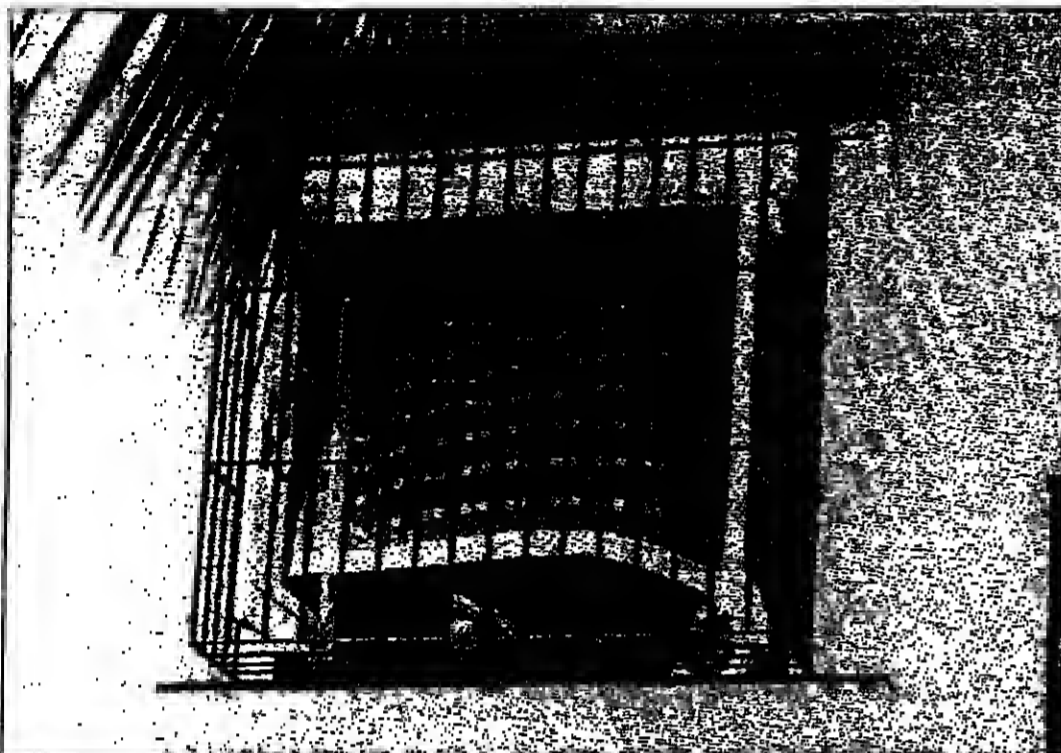
The Cuban government, through Prensa Latina, called the incident "a planned provocation," saying it would investigate to clarify the circumstances in which "this provocation was organised and executed."

The East German news agency ADN said in a dispatch from Havana that the Cuba's communist government promised to help find asylum abroad for the 12 asylum-seekers.

Would-be Cuban emigrants also have taken refuge in the Spanish embassy. Madrid lodged a protest after Cuban authorities chased an asylum-seeker onto the grounds of the Spanish embassy and hauled him away Sunday. Three refugees remain there.

Jindrich Opava of the Czechoslovak Foreign Ministry confirmed in a telephone interview with the Associated Press that all 12 Cubans had left the embassy grounds, but he had no details.

Seven of the 12 Cubans took several diplomats hostage yesterday at the Czechoslovak embassy. Czechoslovak television reported later that all the diplomats were released unharmed.



A hooded hostage-taker appears at a window of the Czechoslovak embassy in Havana on Monday, where seven Cuban refugees seized five other Cuban refugees and a number of Czechoslovak diplomats and demanded a plane to leave the country. (Reuters wirephoto)

## 'Israel also responsible'

Antigua probes arms shipment

ST JOHN'S, Antigua, July 17. (Reuters): The counsel for a royal commission yesterday blamed Antiguan officials for allowing Israeli-made arms to reach Colombian drug lords, but said Israel was also responsible for making sure its weapons were not being supplied to "terrorists."

The commission, meeting for its first day of hearings, had been requested by the Antiguan government to find out how an arms shipment consigned to its defence forces last year ended up in the hands of the Medellin drug cartel.

The hearing in this former British colony of 80,000 residents was held in a building that houses the Methodist church's Caribbean administrative centre. It will resume tomorrow with testimony.

Counsel and lead investigator Geoffrey Robertson said that a failure by Antiguan customs officers "turned weapons over to barbarians". Robertson spent the session outlining the initial findings of the commission, headed by British jurist Louis Blom Cooper.

Unlike a formal court proceeding, the commission has wide latitude and Robertson chose to go well beyond the investigation of the Antiguan role in the events which occurred over the past two years.

He noted that Israel was one of the largest arms exporters in the world and described the tremendous killing power of the Israeli Uzi machine-gun, one of the weapons in the Antiguan consignment.

Robertson also said that Israeli and British mercenaries were used to train cadres of troops for Colombian drug lords.

The mercenaries from both nations held 60-day training sessions that turned "untrained killers into trained killers" capable of battling an army, he said.

Robertson also described in detail the Israeli Military Industries Organisation (IMI), which originally sold the \$353,000 worth of Uzis and Galil sniper rifles that ended up in Colombo.

IMI, he said, was owned by the Israeli Defence Ministry and had sales agents in more than 60 countries.

Noting that many international laws ban the sale of weapons to "terrorists", Robertson added that countries such as Israel and Antigua were "under duty to international laws to not knowingly supply (such) weapons".

About 200 weapons of the Antiguan consignment were found by Colombian troops at a ranch belonging to Medellin cartel leader Gonzalo Rodriguez Gacha last December.

### NEWS IN BRIEF

**Gaviria pledges to fight poverty:** President-elect Cesar Gaviria promised Monday to fight poverty in Medellin where drug traffickers are hiring teenagers to kill people.

Colombia must find social solutions to the wave of terror sweeping Medellin, Gaviria said at a news conference.

It was his first public appearance since returning Sunday from Europe, the United States and Venezuela. He met with President George Bush during his trip to Washington last week. (AP)

**Mexicans posted to Washington:** Six Mexican law-enforcement officials, including a former anti-narcotics director, have been posted to the Mexican embassy in Washington, a spokesman for the Attorney General said Monday.

The spokesman denied a newspaper report that the six are part of an agent exchange in the fight against drugs.

The Mexico City daily newspaper El Universal said Monday that six Mexican anti-narcotics agents were assigned to the Mexican embassy in Washington. (UPI)

**Tremor shakes Mendoza:** An earthquake that registered 4 on the Mercalli scale shook buildings Monday in this provincial city located to the foothills of the Andes mountains.

There were no reports of injuries or damages to buildings, industry or the wine and olive crops that are the area's economic mainstay. The city is 1,300 kilometres (806 miles) west of Buenos Aires. (AP)

**Noriega's copter up for sale:** A luxury helicopter owned by former military ruler Manuel Antonio Noriega will go on sale to the public with an asking price of \$6 million, treasury officials said.

The helicopter, which Noriega purchased from the French company Aerospatiale and used to travel around Panama, will be sold Aug 29 in a closed-bid auction, treasury official Jaime Correa announced Monday. (UPI)

**Nicaraguans allowed US visas:** Nicaraguans crowded outside the US consulate Monday to receive tourist visas to visit the United States after two years of being denied permission to do so.

More than 200 people showed up at the consulate Monday morning, with more expected during the day. Similar numbers of applicants were expected for the next several days before demand starts to ease, US embassy officials said. (UPI)

### Haitians back talks

Ultimatum suspended

PORT-AU-PRINCE, July 17. (Reuters): Haiti's political crisis eased yesterday when several political parties that had demanded the president resign by noon yesterday let the deadline pass and agreed to further dialogue.

The faction in the 11-party Unity Assembly coalition that had been demanding provisional President Ertha Pascal Trouillot's resignation said it had agreed to settle for talks.

The group last week threatened to mobilise the people against Trouillot unless two feared former aides of exiled dictator Jean-Claude "Baby Doc" Duvalier were not arrested by mid-day yesterday.

Former interior minister Roger Lafontant and Williams Regala returned from self-imposed exile earlier this month, provoking a political crisis in the Caribbean nation.

Haiti, the poorest nation in the Western Hemisphere, has been torn by turmoil since Duvalier was overthrown by a popular uprising in 1986 and fled the country.

**Revolution anniversary:** For the first time since leftist guerrillas rolled into Managua on July 19, 1979, the Sandinistas on Thursday mark the anniversary of the Nicaraguan revolution as an opposition group.

Becoming an unarmed opposition party is now perhaps the most difficult task of all for the Sandinista National Liberation Front (FSLN), which toppled a dictator and ran Nicaragua for 10 years.

Now the Front is fighting to maintain policies it once thought would never face serious challenge. (Reuters)

**FMLN step up attacks:** Salvadoran guerrillas say they plan to step up attacks to "refresh the government's memory."

High-ranking members of the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front (FMLN), a coalition of several guerrilla armies, made the comments in a weekend meeting with reporters. They spoke on condition of anonymity.

The FMLN said several Salvadoran political parties are arming themselves as fast as they can in view of the general belief that the civil war, which has already claimed more than 70,000 victims, is about to worsen. (AP)



### Asylum talks

Czechoslovak Foreign Minister Jiri Dienstbier (right) shakes hands with his Argentine counterpart, Domingo Cavallo, during a meeting at the Foreign Ministry on Monday. Dienstbier said his country will grant asylum to Cubans but not those who took the Czech embassy by force and are holding hostages in Havana. (Reuters wirephoto)

### Pan Am bomb threat not credible

WASHINGTON, July 17. (Reuters): The State Department said yesterday that a reported threat to blow up a Pan American airliner flying from West Germany to the next 10 days was not credible.

The reported threat was based on information that had been circulating within the European news media for several months, spokesman Richard Boucher said. "It was carefully reviewed and judged not to be credible."

Boucher appeared to confirm a report that the US Federal Aviation Administration had issued a bulletin on the reported threat.



Rebels from the National Patriotic Front of Liberia (NPFL) fire their automatic rifles at government soldiers during a battle at Scheffelin military camp outside Monrovia on July 14. (Reuters wirephoto)

## Liberian rebels starving

Discipline breaking down among Taylor's forces

MONROVIA, July 17. (Reuters): With Liberia's government under increasing pressure from a starving population, an eyewitness said rebels trying to overthrow President Samuel Doe were suffering from a lack of food and a breakdown in discipline.

A prominent Liberian who asked not to be identified said yesterday he spent two weeks in rebel captivity after being captured by forces of the National Patriotic Front of Liberia (NPFL) in the residential suburb of Paynesville 13km (eight miles) to the east of the capital Monrovia.

He told reporters he was kept inside his home in Paynesville where he

had ample time to observe the rebels in action.

The rebels, headed by Charles Taylor, have encircled Monrovia for more than two weeks, cutting off public utilities and food supply routes into the city.

The man, who holds a prominent position in a Liberian Government Ministry, said the rebels summarily executed members of President Doe's Krahn tribe and their allies, the Mandingos.

Any civilians resisting their arbitrary demands for food, lodging or transportation were shot on the spot.

Such reports have been confirmed by reporters and others travelling behind rebel lines, who have described summary executions and frequent breakdowns of discipline among Taylor's fighters.

"It was sheer anarchy," the man said. "Every house is opened and looted of the cars and the food in it. When they see your house, they chase you out with your family. If you resist, they kill you."

"They tend not to loot other objects in the house. I believe Taylor is personally trying to prevent the looting and killing, but discipline is rapidly breaking down among his men."

### Begged

Discipline was reported to be breaking down as well among government troops inside Monrovia where five different army units set up five successive checkpoints on the main road through the city centre all within a quarter mile. At each roadblock the soldiers — with politeness — begged passing motorists for food, drink, cigarettes and money.

In Monrovia, the military situation was rated hopeless for Doe by most diplomats, who said the only issue was when he would agree to leave the city.

Some 2,000 US Marines were cruising offshore in a four-ship task-force waiting for a signal to come into the capital of this West African state founded in 1847 by freed American slaves.

The Americans say they will land only if they are needed to save US lives. President George Bush has the last word on when to send in the Marines.

### Skeleton staff

The government is operating at below skeleton staff level and only four of Doe's 21 ministers remain at their posts.

Even the chief of staff of the armed forces of Liberia, Lieutenant General Charles Jusu, has fled, government officials have finally admitted. Jusu was reported to have arrived in the United States.

The few government officials still at their posts were reported to be regularly harassed and threatened. One high-ranking civil servant said he was stopped by an armed soldier at a checkpoint who demanded he turn over a bag of food he was carrying or be shot on the spot.

"I had no choice but to obey," the civil servant said.

Refugees continued to stream westward out of Monrovia to the only road still reported open to refugee camps or the open countryside. They said they were leaving the city in search of food and safety.

## Cuellar praises De Klerk policies

UNITED NATIONS, July 17. (AP): A UN report declared yesterday that South Africa "has reached the threshold of a new era" of non-racial democracy by beginning to dismantle apartheid.

Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar praised South African President F.W. de Klerk for his "bold and courageous" policy of dismantling apartheid and also lauded black leaders for "vision and forbearance."

He said, introducing a report by a special UN team, that he was "greatly encouraged by the positive developments" in South Africa this year.

The secretary-general added, however, that the process of dismantling the apartheid system of racial segregation "is still at an early stage" and emphasized that the system has inflicted grave social injustice on the majority black population.

Perez de Cuellar, in an apparent reference to both blacks and whites, cited "the urgent requirement to end the violence."

The issue of violence, in Natal province and elsewhere, must be addressed at the highest level because, if it continues, the consequences could seriously impede the political process aimed at ending apartheid, he said.

Last December, the General Assembly met in a special session against apartheid, calling for the people of South Africa to negotiate an end to the system and transform their country into a non-racial democracy. It also called upon the secretary-general to make a report on progress toward ending apartheid.

Perez de Cuellar dispatched a team to South Africa from June 9 to 19, led by Ambassador A. Farah, under-secretary-general for special political questions. The team met government officials, opposition and black leaders and gathered information on steps to end apartheid.

"South Africa has reached the threshold of a new era," Farah said in his conclusion, to the secretary-general. "The political process on which it has embarked holds encouraging prospects of leading to the dismantlement of apartheid."

But he added, "so long as racial attitudes persist and apartheid structures at the local level remain, the process for change will encounter difficulties."

Farah said there is a general perception that "the path taken by the government offers real promise for constructive political discussion and represents a significant change from the position of its predecessors."

But he added there is also a widespread belief that additional steps are required to establish a productive political atmosphere.



### Rebels fire

Rebels from the National Patriotic Front of Liberia (NPFL) fire at government soldiers near the Scheffelin military camp outside Monrovia on July 14. The rebels, headed by Charles Taylor, have encircled Monrovia for more than two weeks, cutting off public utilities and food supply routes into the city. (Reuters wirephoto)

## Whites plead guilty to weapons charge

One still in custody

JOHANNESBURG, July 17. (AP): Three whites with alleged sympathies to right-wing groups pleaded guilty yesterday to the illegal possession of hand grenades, plastic explosives and other weapons.

Authorities have not linked the three men to recent bombings against blacks and whites who oppose apartheid. White extremists have claimed responsibility for the attacks.

However, police sources told the Star newspaper of Johannesburg that the trio were believed to be supporters of right-wing groups.

Normao Vao Biljoen, Michael Street and Julio Aruma pleaded guilty in the Germiston regional court outside Johannesburg to illegally possessing weapons that included 39 grenades, 1 kilogramme (2.2 pounds) of plastic explosives, three Claymore shrapnel mines, ammunition and

detonators.

The star reported last week that the weapons were stolen from military bases.

Van Biljoen remained in custody, while Street and Aruma were released, both on bail of 5,000 rand (\$1,900).

In other developments yesterday, police Maj. Gen. Herman Stadler said White extremists were believed responsible for the bombings in Johannesburg of two popular bars on Saturday. No arrests had been made despite a major manhunt.

In one incident, a white man rolled a grenade into a bar that was packed with more than 100 people. One black man was killed and 21 people injured, most of them black.

In the same area, a hotel bar where all the patrons were white was bombed with commercial dynamite before dawn on Saturday, killing a black waiter.

## Mandela gets souvenir: framed copy of 1962 arrest warrant

MAPUTO, Mozambique July 17. (AP): Nelson Mandela got an unlikely souvenir from the past yesterday. A framed copy of an arrest warrant issued for him in 1962 by the Portuguese colonial rulers of Mozambique.

Amid much laughter from the crowd, Mozambique President Joaquim Chissano presented the memento to a rally in honour of Mandela. The leader of the African National Congress is on the last

leg of a 14-nation tour of Africa, Europe and North America.

The warrant described Mandela as a black agitator in South Africa last seen "wearing a long beard and a chauffeur's uniform with a peaked cap," the national news agency Afp reported.

The warrant said Mandela, the underground leader of a fledgling guerrilla campaign at the time, could be on his way to Mozambique, South Africa's eastern

neighbour.

Mandela was captured by South African authorities in 1962. He was later sentenced to life in prison for sabotage and plotting to overthrow the white-ruled government. He was released last February.

Mozambique gained independence from Portugal in 1975 and has been governed for the last 15 years by the leftist Frelimo Party, which supports Mandela's African National Congress. The ANC is

the leading black opposition group in South Africa.

"The struggle of the ANC is our struggle," said Chissano, who described Mandela as a man of peace.

Mandela, who arrived Saturday in Mozambique, said he would seek to end the violence in South Africa.

ANC supporters have been locked in a power struggle with Inkatha, a relatively conservative Zulu organisation.

## Space plans under review

WASHINGTON, July 17. (Reuters) US Vice-President Dan Quayle, who heads the US Space Council, has ordered a study of the nation's troubled space programme that shapes up more as a philosophical review of NASA goals and objectives than a hard-hitting look at its problems.

The once-vaunted National Aeronautics and Space Administration (Nasa) has seemed star-crossed ever since the space shuttle Challenger exploded after liftoff in January 1986, killing schoolteacher Christa McAuliffe and six other crewmembers.

More recent setbacks include the post-launch discovery of a flaw in the \$2.1 billion Hubble Space Telescope which is expected to take at least three years to fix and hydrogen fuel leaks that have grounded two of America's remaining space shuttles.

Later Nasa administrator Richard Truly said shuttle flights will resume in a few weeks.

"We have isolated both of those leaks and probably tomorrow or maybe the next day we are going to be announcing we are coming back to flight and probably the first flight will be in just a few weeks," he said in a television interview.

Quayle's office said in a statement that he had asked Nasa administrator Richard Truly to put together an outside task force "that will consider the future long-term direction" of the space programme.

"It's not an investigation of Nasa. It's not a shake-up. It's a forward-looking rather than backward-looking study of how to carry out the president's goals in space and keep the United States first in space," a White House official said.

Nasa's troubles have fuelled congressional criticism of the space programme. Legislators are increasingly fed up with its huge appetite for tax dollars for projects that cost more than planned, start later than expected and fail to work as promised.

Truly said the task force of government and industry experts will assess Nasa's current situation and recommend how the agency should change to manage projects on the drawing boards for the next century.

Asked about the problems with the telescope and the two shuttle flights, he replied, "Those three are not related as it turned out they had happened all on top of each other. Immediately our successes... were forgotten in two weeks of a feeding frenzy of criticism," Truly said.

Under pressure to cut the budget and minimise any tax increase in an election year, Congress has voted to slide more than \$600 million from Nasa's fiscal 1991 budget request of \$15.2 billion.

This effectively blocks President George Bush from laying the groundwork for his goal of sending an expedition to Mars from a manned moon base within 30 years.

"Space continues to be a top priority for this administration. We want the best ideas on how we can move into the next century maintaining our leadership in space," the vice-president's office said in announcing the formation of the outside task force.

It said the task force would report to Quayle but provided no timetable. A White House source said Truly would name members of the task force and that it was likely to be composed of former Nasa officials.

### Optimistic

A new astronaut on track to becoming Nasa's first female shuttle commander said she welcomes scrutiny of the beleaguered agency.

Officials on Monday ordered a review by outside experts of US long-term space goals, the same day the astronaut candidate class of 1990 reported to work for the first time.

The National Aeronautics and Space Administration has endured a spate of recent embarrassments, including trouble with the \$1.5 billion Hubble space telescope and hydrogen leaks that have grounded the space shuttle fleet. (AP)

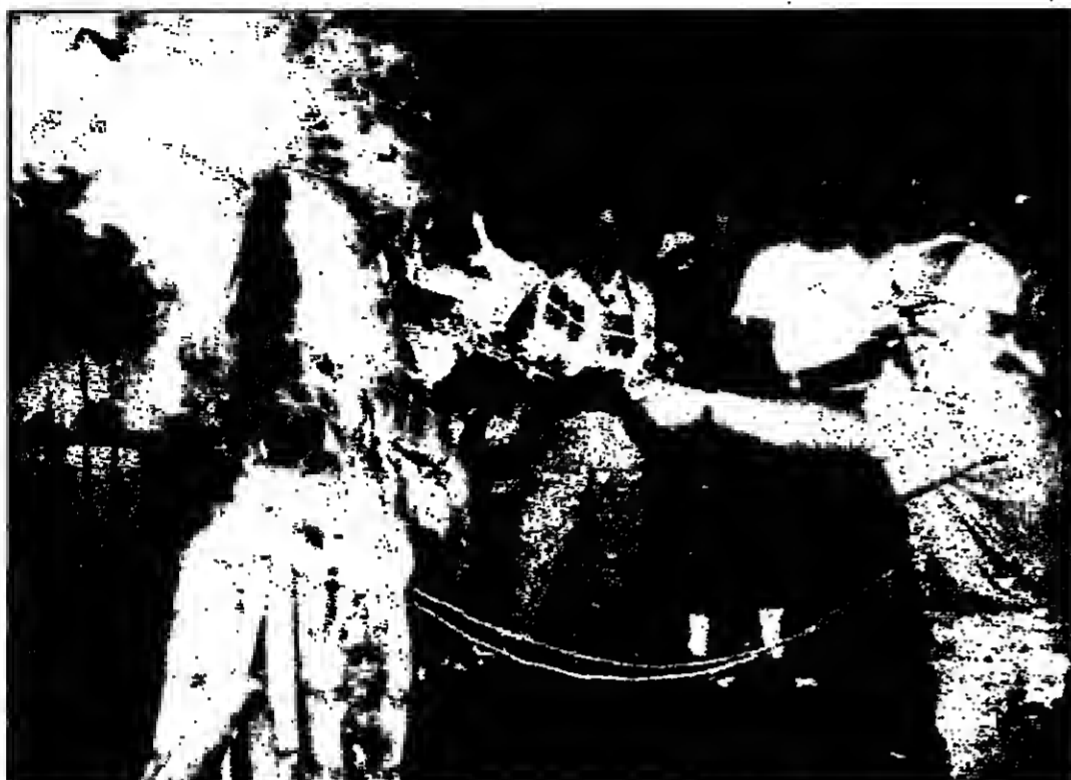
### Remembered

Three American astronauts in a leftover Apollo moon capsule linked up with two Soviet cosmonauts 15 years ago today in an unprecedented show of international goodwill that highlighted the era of détente.

In the years since, superpower space relations waxed and waned, but the Apollo-Soyuz test project still stands as the only joint space flight ever conducted by two spacefaring nations. (UPI)



Lorraine Gardner cries as the coffin with the remains of her husband, Canadian Corporal Marcel Lemay, is carried on Monday. Lemay was killed by Indian Mohawks in a confrontation. (Reuters wirephoto)



A Chateaugay, Quebec resident shakes the hand of burning effigy of a Mohawk warrior during a protest of the Mohawks' blockade of the nearby Mercier bridge on Monday. Hundreds of town residents gathered at the site of the blockade to show their frustration. (Reuters wirephoto)

## Settlement still not near

### Mohawks standoff

L'ANCIENNE-LORETTE, Quebec, July 17. (AP) A provincial police official, speaking yesterday at the funeral of an officer killed in a shootout with Mohawk Indians, pleaded with his colleagues not to seek revenge.

The officer died on Wednesday in a confrontation with Mohawks opposing a golf course addition on lands they claim as ancestral territory. The standoff continued yesterday, with armed Mohawks of nearby Kanataake reserve manning barricades in Oka, a town 18 miles (29 kilometres) west of Montreal.

Cpl. Marcel Lemay, 31, died on Wednesday when police tried to storm an Indian barricade in Oka with gunfire and tear gas. It has not yet been determined whether Lemay was shot by Mohawks or by his fellow officers in the melee.

At his funeral on Monday, the director-general of the Quebec provincial police told his fellow officers nothing would be accomplished by seeking retribution for Lemay's death.

"We won't find an answer to our questions in vengeance, retaliation or rebellion," Robert Lavigne said. He called for "the calm, the lucidity and the rational approach" that he said had so far guided authorities in the dispute.

Quebec's public security minister, Sam Elkas, has said Lavigne ordered Wednesday's raid.

Lavigne spoke to nearly 1,500 people, including local residents, politicians, and police officers from as far away as New York City. They crammed into the ornate L'Ance-ne-Lorette church in the Quebec city suburb.

Lemay's widow, Lorraine, sat in the front row and occasionally wiped tears with a tissue. Lemay is also survived by a 3-year-old daughter.

Eveo behind the Mohawk barricades in Oka, a flag was lowered to half-staff yesterday to mark Lemay's funeral. However, a Mohawk spokesman, Ellen Gabriel, said a settlement is still not near. She is helping to represent the Mohawks in talks with Quebec provincial officials.

Other Mohawks, in sympathy with the Oka Indians, have blocked a bridge connecting Montreal to its southern suburbs. Ms. Gabriel said the Mercier bridge will remain barricaded "as long as our demands aren't being met."

More than 250 chiefs from Iroquois bands across Canada have been invited to an emergency session to discuss the armed standoff. Joe Norton, band council chief at the Kahnawake reserve, said the chiefs meeting is planned for Wednesday and Thursday.

Attorney William Kunstler, a lawyer who has represented many US activists, was to fly to Montreal today to serve as a negotiator for the Indians, the lawyer's New York office said.

At the blocked bridge across the St. Lawrence river, about 100 provincial officers marched in formation yesterday to honour Lemay.

They stopped in front of the police barricades and faced the Mohawk barricades for a minute of silence.

There were ugly scenes in that area Saturday and Sunday when local residents gathered to protest the blockade.

## 43 climbers killed in Soviet avalanche

MOSCOW, July 17. (AP) An earthquake triggered an avalanche in the Pamir Mountains in Tajikistan Republic, killing 43 mountain climbers, including 13 foreigners, the official Tass news agency and climbing officials said today.

Tass said the avalanche last Friday swept away the mountaineers from a base camp at the 5,300 metre (17,389 yard) level of Lenin Peak, 2,880 kilometres (1,800 miles) southeast of Moscow.

"There has never been such a tragedy in the history of Soviet mountain climbing," said Vladimir Shatayev, the coach of the Soviet Mountain Climbing Committee. "I don't think there has ever been such an accident in the world."

### Occupied

He said the base camp has been in use since the 1930s. Since 1974, he said, the base camp has been almost permanently occupied by groups of 100 or more mountain climbers.

Shatayev said 23 of the victims belonged to the Leninist mountain climbing team, four came from Israel, six from Czechoslovakia, two from Switzerland and one from Spain. The rest of the victims were Soviets.

He said none of the bodies have been recovered, but a team of 30 rescue workers was searching for the remains.

### Chile complains

SANTIAGO, July 17. (UPI) Chile filed an official complaint against the government of Soviet Union Monday after a Chilean Navy ship fired on a Soviet fishing vessel surprised in restricted waters.

Chile and the Soviet Union re-established diplomatic relations in March, broken after a military coup d'etat in 1973.

US Red Cross sued: A Washington attorney said on Monday he filed a lawsuit against the American Red Cross on behalf of some 230 people who may have been infected with Aids through blood collected by the Washington Red Cross office during 1984 and 1985.

Lawyer Michael Feldman said the suit charged that the Red Cross has failed to protect recipients of donated blood by screening potential blood donors using so-called surrogate markers of Aids.

"It is incorrect for the American Red Cross to say that there was nothing they could have done to protect transfusion recipients from Aids prior to the advent of the test they began using in the spring of 1985 to screen blood for Aids," Feldman said. (Reuters)

Bush names Tower: President George Bush named former Sen. John Tower of Texas as chairman of his foreign intelligence advisory board and replaced all other Reagan-era members of the panel.

In a major overhaul, Bush on Monday also cut the size of the presidential board from its current size of 13 members to six.

Tower, who was unsuccessfully nominated by Bush as secretary of defence last year, was the only holdover member of the board. He now works as a consultant in Dallas. (AP)

Aging aircraft: The House of Representatives voted Monday to require more careful inspection of older aircraft for signs of metal fatigue.

The bill, passed by voice vote, is in response to a 1988 incident over Hawaii in which the top of the passenger cabin ripped off an Aloha Airlines jet.

The plane managed to land, but a flight attendant was sucked out of the hole and killed. A subsequent inspection pinned the cause on metal fatigue. (AP)

Dimitrios blesses US: Patriarch Dimitrios, the spiritual leader of 250 million Orthodox Christians, offered a blessing from a boat Monday while gazing at the Statue of Liberty.

On an hour-long cruise that circled Ellis and Liberty Islands, Dimitrios offered prayers thanking America for opening its doors to people of all nations and faiths. Ellis Island was the first stop for countless immigrants for processing by US authorities.

Then, he blessed the statue and what it stands for: "Liberty, democracy and justice." "I came here to seek liberty," Dimitrios said through a translator. "The statue is the symbol of this, of a country which provides opportunities no matter the ethnic background." (AP)

Lockdown at San Quentin: A guard fired a warning shot to break up a fight among 120 black and Hispanic inmates at San Quentin prison and about 500 inmates were locked in their cells Tuesday after the weekend incident.

It was the latest in a series of lockdowns at the big prison following the discovery of weapons in three different areas and at least one other fight linked to racial tensions, officials said Monday. The latest fight broke out Sunday night in the minimum security unit, a dormitory area. It ended when a guard fired a warning shot. No weapons were found in the area, prison spokesman Vernell Critchfield said. (UPI)

Disturbance at INS: A disturbance involving about 40 detainees at an immigration service facility Monday resulted in two people being hospitalized, officials said.

Charles Troy, a spokesman for the Immigration and Naturalisation Service, said the 20-minute disturbance was brought under control by guards.

He said some windows were broken and a fire set in some bedding triggered the sprinkler system, prompting a call to the fire department but caused no damage. (AP)

Make-or-break talks: The five permanent members of the UN Security Council were struggling on Tuesday to make headway at make-or-break talks on Cambodia, aware failure would cripple efforts to end one of the world's longest-running conflicts.

"It has been stressed that something must come out of this meeting," said a senior official from Britain, one of the United Nations' "Big Five" along with the United States, the Soviet Union, China and France.

"This is now the only world forum in which Cambodia is still being discussed," he added. (Reuters)

Queues for petrol

Czechoslovak Finance Minister Václav Klaus warned of imminent hefty rises in petrol prices yesterday as an acute fuel shortage created long queues at filling stations. Asked if petrol would go up by more than 50 per cent, he said: "Probably, yes." But he expected any rise in fuel oil to be considerably less, particularly as agriculture's needs were at their greatest for harvest time. In the picture, Czechoslovakian motorists push their cars toward a petrol station yesterday. (Reuters wirephoto)

Aussie kids aping Ninja Turtles: Australian teenagers are risking their lives by taking to sewers on bicycles and skateboards in imitation of the stars of the popular US television series "Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles", police said on Tuesday.

A police spokesman in Melbourne said the children could be drowned or poisoned by gases in the sewers. "There are no two ways about it," he said. "If it keeps going some child will be drowned. That's the part that frightens us." (Reuters)

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## NEWS BRIEF



### Playful children

Kadazan children play with a water buffalo in a muddy rice paddy in Tambunan yesterday, while their parents cast ballots at a nearby polling station. The Kadazan tribe, mainly Roman Catholics, make up nearly 40 per cent of the population of Sabah, where state elections ended yesterday. (Reuters wirephoto)

### Urges China to move toward West

## Japan eases sanctions

BEIJING, July 17. (UPI) A senior Japanese official, visiting China to explain Japan's easing of economic sanctions, today urged Beijing to take substantial steps toward restoring ties with Western nations, Japanese sources said.

But deputy Foreign Minister Hisashi Owada, in a meeting with Chinese Foreign Minister Qian Qichen, left his recommendation vague and did not detail specific measures China could take on human rights, said the sources, who declined to be further identified.

The meeting was the highest-level Japanese visit to Beijing since Chinese troops suppressed the pro-democracy movement in June 1989, firing on unarmed protesters in Beijing to crush six weeks of unrest.

Owada met with Qian on the second day of a three-day visit to explain Japan's decision to restore a \$5.4 billion concessional lending package frozen after the crackdown.

Jailed for sex without condom: An Australian man who forced his new girlfriend to have sex without a condom was jailed for five years and nine months on Tuesday.

Garry John Norwood, 42, was found guilty of aggravated rape after the unnamed woman, who was half his age, refused last July to have sex without a condom for fear of catching Aids, court sources said.

Judge Gordon Spence, in passing sentence, said Norwood had known the woman only a few weeks and she knew nothing of his sexual history. Spence said it appeared the woman would have consented to sex if Norwood had agreed to use a condom. (Reuters)

Nicaraguan envoy held: A former Nicaraguan envoy to Japan was arrested in Tokyo on Tuesday for possible extradition to the United States on charges of helping to smuggle heroin to New York, Japan's Foreign Ministry said.

William Tapia, until Monday a councillor at the Nicaraguan Embassy, was arrested after the United States asked that he be placed in temporary custody, the ministry said in a statement.

Tapia, 47, was indicted in February this year in his absence by a New York Federal District Court on charges that he twice smuggled heroin from Thailand to New York in 1987, the ministry said.

He took up his post as first secretary at the Tokyo Embassy in 1986 and was promoted to councillor in 1989, the Foreign Ministry said. (Reuters)

3 dealers get death: The high court sentenced three men to death on Monday for trafficking in 107.6 grammes (2 pounds, 5.8 ounces) of cannabis.

Judge James Foong held that 30-year-old Zainudin Baharudin, 29-year-old Zakaria Zainon and his 24-year-old brother Zawawi had custody and knowledge of the drug, which the police found in a room rented by Zawawi.

More possession of more than 100 grammes (3.53 ounces) of cannabis, often used to make marijuana or hashish, is deemed to be trafficking under Malaysian law. No sale need to be proved. (AP)

Chinese Aids toll 237: The Aids virus has been found in 91 more Chinese drug addicts living near the drug-producing "golden triangle," the China daily newspaper said Tuesday.

The report comes five months after shocked Chinese officials discovered 146 Aids-infected drug addicts, the first reported in the nation. They were also living in southwest China's Yunnan province.

Yunnan adjoins the "golden triangle" of northern Laos, Thailand and Burma, which produces most of the world's heroin. (AP)

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# Book reopens controversy on Matterhorn tragedy

GENEVA, July 17. (AP) A new book has rekindled an old dispute about the Matterhorn tragedy that overshadowed the triumphant first ascent 125 years ago.

Rumours and suspicions have lingered ever since four members of the seven-man English-French-Swiss team fell to their deaths, less than two hours after the July 14, 1865, conquest of the best-known landmark of the Alps.

The four died in a 1,200-metre (4,000-foot) fall down the mountain's north face after a break in the rope that tied them to the three mountaineers.

The combination of triumph and tragedy made headlines throughout the world.

The victims were a French guide, Michel Croz, and three Englishmen, the Rev. Charles Hudson, 36, Douglas Hadow, 19, and Lord Francis Douglas, 20, whose body was never found.

The three survivors were British writer-artist Edward Whymper, who had initiated the expedition, Swiss guide Peter Taugwalder and his son.

An official investigation established that there was no evidence of foul play

in the accident. But the result was kept under lock and key by police and became known only 55 years later through an article published in Britain's Alpine journal.

Early rumours, first cited in a Vienna newspaper, alleged it was Whymper who had cut the rope in order to boost his claim to fame. In a letter to the London Times in August 1965, Whymper stated that one of the three survivors could be blamed for the accident. The letter did not refer to the rumours.

Six years later, a graphic account of

the historic feat in Whymper's "Scrambles Amongst the Alps" added fuel to the controversy. The book rejected as "infamous" rumours that the Swiss guide, Taugwalder, had cut the rope.

However, Whymper's book also referred to a "grave suspicion" falling on the Swiss guide because the rope between Taugwalder and the nearest of the four others, Lord Douglas, "was the thinnest and the weakest one we had."

This was "suspicious because it is unlikely that the four men in front

## INTERNATIONAL

## Quake

(Continued from Page 1)

of adjacent guest rooms fell into the lobby.

Among the dead was the wife of the hotel manager. Ramos estimated 50 people may have been killed there, although rescue efforts hadn't been completed.

The quake ripped the city's luxury Nevada Hotel in half, leaving a huge gash in the middle of the structure.

The US Agency for International Development was conducting a seminar with Philippine volunteer organisations in the Nevada when the quake hit.

US officials said one aid employee was missing and feared dead. The wife of the deputy majority leader in the Philippine House of Representatives, Rep. Raul Roco, also was trapped in the Nevada, but was believed to be still alive with 20 others, Philippine officials said.

US embassy spokesman Stanley Schragger said about 1,500 Americans live in Baguio.

The earthquake virtually isolated the city from the rest of the country. It damaged the runway at Baguio's airport and knocked out the control tower.

It also triggered more than 14 landslides, closing all four roads leading to the city, and knocked out telephone, electricity and municipal water pumps.

The military said it was unable to bring cranes, tractors and other heavy equipment to the city because of the landslides every 500 metres (yards). The landslides also trapped hundreds of people in passenger buses, trucks and private cars.

Philippine officials and reporters who visited the city today said the 119,000 residents were still numbed by the carnage. Hundreds fled their homes and pitched tents in the city's Burnham Park or set up housekeeping in their cars.

Most stores in the city remained closed, and food and fuel supplies were running dangerously low. Col Bienvenido Leticia, spokesman for the military rescue team, said the search for survivors had to be suspended at night because there was no electricity to power searchlights.

"We cannot use our bare hands," he said. "We need power tools." He appealed over Manila radio stations for jacks, tools, plasma, medicine and doctors to care for the injured.

An American, a South Korean and a Taiwanese were among more than 300 people who died in the powerful earthquake, officials said.

The US embassy said one American national was pulled out dead today from the rubble of a hotel building that collapsed in Baguio city.

The Philippine Red Cross said a male Korean and a Taiwanese woman died when a large building housing three garment factories in Baguio crumbled.

US Ambassador Nicholas Platt flew to Baguio to check on the fate of about 2,000 Americans visiting or living there.

There was confusion among officials over how many workers were trapped in the factory building. Lourdes Masina, director of the Red Cross disaster control office, said the local military reported that "hundreds" of factory workers were unaccounted for but this was unverified.

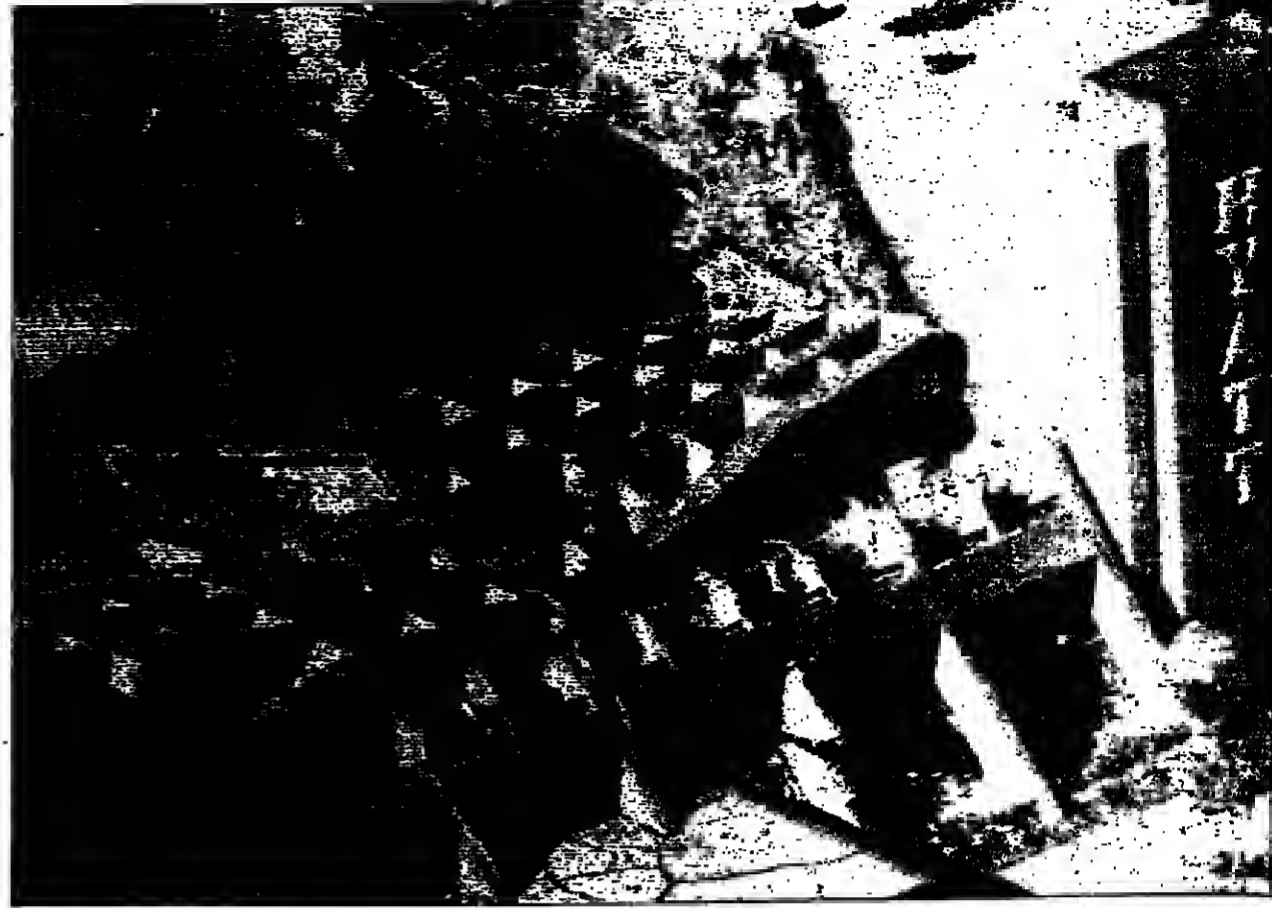
Masing, who visited Baguio today, said the estimate was based on the assumption that about 600 people worked in the three factories at any given time but no one had confirmed how many were actually inside when the earthquake struck.

"I doubt if it's really that many," he said in a telephone interview. An American family escaped down seven storeys of the Hyatt Hotel in Baguio by knotting bed sheets together while a wing of the building fell apart during the earthquake.

"We could hear crumbling and grabbed a few personal things," said Jan Westwick of Chicago, Illinois, as she stood outside the ruined hotel in the northern resort town today.



An entire building crumbles to the ground, blocking a street in the commercial district of Baguio. (Reuter wirephoto)



An aerial view of the Hyatt Hotel in Baguio City after it collapsed yesterday. (Reuter wirephoto)



17-year Mayleen Rabor lies in the rubble of the Christian College of the Philippines, as rescue workers try to free her. (Reuter wirephoto)



Philippine President Aquino tours a hospital in Cebanatuan city. (Reuter wirephoto)

## Survivors' account of terror

## Baguio Hyatt Hotel a crumpled ruin after quake

MANILA, July 17, (Reuter): The Baguio Hyatt Hotel lies in a crumpled ruin after one wing of luxury rooms collapsed in the worst Philippine earthquake in 14 years.

Reporters who flew over the devastated resort city of Baguio in a military plane today saw rooms in one six-storey wing lying flat on their side, concrete slabs and steel bars jutting sharply from a gaping hole in the centre.

Several other multi-storey buildings in the mountain city, 200 km (120 miles) north of Manila, sustained heavy damage, trapping tourists in the rubble and killing university students in a college building.

In the Nevada Hotel, US aid officials had

been holding a conference with Philippine organisations.

The United States flew four rescue teams to the city by helicopter with dogs trained to locate victims hidden beneath the rubble.

Reporters who flew to the city were unable to land because of big cracks on the airport's runway, which hampered transport of food, medicine and other relief supplies.

One wing of the Hyatt, which housed a casino, was intact and another building was slightly damaged. The middle section caved in trapping nearly 200 guests, including foreigners, rescue officials said.

Gold mining companies in the area requested help to evacuate people from min-

ing communities, where 30 people were reported to have died and scores were hurt, the private radio station DZRH said.

Landslides blocked portions of mountain roads leading to Baguio, virtually isolating the city as communication lines remained cut.

Boulders blocked roads and rescue workers appealed for heavy equipment to clear them, radio reports said.

People could be seen huddled in the city's public squares and roads were deserted.

From the plane, several buildings were seen tilting to one side. A multi-storey hotel near a market was compressed like an accordion. A university building had collapsed, trapping students inside.

classrooms. Some still clutched their class books. One young girl lay beneath a giant concrete slab that fell on her in the most powerful earthquake to hit the Philippines in 14 years.

She was dead, but still grasped her pen. Another girl lay with her legs crushed, buried under four concrete floors of the school that crumbled like a pack of cards.

Seventeen-year-old Mayleen Rabor cried and begged her father to save her.

"Get me out of here, Papa. I can't take it anymore," the first-year college student begged Cresencio Rabor, who clawed with his bare hands at the mountain of rubble pinning his daughter.

Mayleen was one of an estimated 50 to 100 people still trapped in the ruins of the Christian College of the Philippines in Cabanatuan City, 90 km (55 miles) north of Manila.

The building looked like a collapsed accordion.

Hands, heads and legs protruded from broken concrete slabs and mangled iron.

Soldiers and civilians armed with chisels hurrowed small openings to try to reach the screaming, moaning children. Rabor, who talked to his daughter through a crack on Monday night, told reporters that Mayleen was crying and asking him to get her out.

Rabor found a chisel and chipped away at the rubble. His daughter lay beside the bodies of two older girls and a boy.

A doctor shoved a plastic tube through the whole and attached Mayleen's arm to an oxygen tube hanging from a piece of wood.

"We'll have to cut her legs if we want her to survive," the doctor said.

Rabor said his daughter told him she was willing to live out the rest of her life as a

cripple.

Cheers erupted from the other end of the shattered school building as rescuers began extricating five other girls from the ruins.

"They are alive," soldiers shouted triumphantly. The girls in their grey and white school uniforms were hustled out on stretchers one by one to a waiting ambulance.

The first girl grimaced as she was pulled out of the rubble, as though blinded by sunlight. One girl, pale and dazed, lay on her back on the stretcher, smiling at the blue sky.

They had been entombed for 18 hours.

Rescue work was slow and tedious. Workers said they could only use chisels, hammers, drills and picks—stone by stone—because a jackhammer and a crane would jar the mountain of death and bring it crashing

down on the children underneath.

Cabanatuan police chief Lieutenant Colonel Rogelio de Joya said more than 100 people, many of them children, have been rescued alive since Monday afternoon.

"If they go beyond today, we may not get any of them out alive," De Joya said.

Cries of help before dawn today sent Isaac Aberger, 40, rushing to the caved-in second floor of the building where his daughter Dolly lay moaning.

Father and daughter recognised each other by their voices.

She was pleading for help. Minutes later she was dead.

President Corason Aquino briefly visited the ruins today to see the rescue operations.

About 10 metres (30 feet) from where she stood rescuers were boring through a portion of the school building where earlier they heard voices from trapped schoolchildren saying "Hurry, please hurry."

## Leftist denied asylum

MANILA, July 17, (AP): The Netherlands has denied political asylum to the founder of the outlawed Communist Party of the Philippines, Philippine and Dutch embassy officials announced today.

Foreign Secretary Raul Manglapus said Jose Maria Sison's application for political asylum in the Netherlands has been formally rejected by the Dutch minister of justice.

The 50-year-old Sison, who has been living in Utrecht since October 1988, plans to appeal the decision, Manglapus said.

Sison will not be asked to leave the Netherlands while his appeal is pending, said Dutch embassy spokesman Peter van Leeuwen.

The military has claimed that Sison has resumed his role as party chief. In September 1988, the government cancelled his passport and filed charges against him while he was on an extended speaking tour in Europe. A warrant for his arrest has been issued.

Later, military officials said they were considering filing murder charges against Sison in connection with an August 1971 grenade attack on a political rally in which nine people were killed.

The military said the grenade attack was masterminded by Sison to provoke then-president Ferdinand Marcos into a political crackdown.



A rescue worker carries an injured young school girl to an ambulance. (Reuter wirephoto)



A 23-year-old school worker, his leg pinned beneath a lump of concrete, screams out to rescue workers. (Reuter wirephoto)

## Nature wreaks fierce revenge for destruction of forests in Vietnam

HANOI, July 17, (Reuter): Nature has wreaked a fierce revenge for the wholesale destruction of forests in northern Vietnam, devastating an entire valley with a sudden flood that surged down the barren hills.

## Deforestation

The submergence of Muong Lay in floodwaters up to seven metres (23 feet) deep in late June was the most dramatic natural response yet to the rampant deforestation that jeopardises the livelihood of millions and threatens to make a mockery of major development projects.

A typhoon hurled torrents of rain on the steep ridges of Lai Chau province in the inaccessible corner of Vietnam bordering China and Laos. The ridges, once covered with water-retaining jungle, now have a thin layer of grass.

According to official accounts, 80 people were drowned or are missing after a wall of water smashed through Muong Lay, about 300 km (186 miles) northwest of Hanoi on an upper tributary of the Red river.

The deluge swept away four of the town's five bridges and flattened homes, schools and offices.

Fourteen days after the tragedy, roads through the bare hills, which lost tonnes of topsoil, were still blocked and authorities were unable to deliver 50,000 tonnes of rice to hungry survivors, despite army help.

## Logging

In nearby Thailand in 1989, a similar disaster prompted a total ban on logging across the country. There are hopes that here in Vietnam it may also focus the minds of planners on halting a process that may be fast becoming irreversible.

"This may have a positive result in that the authorities and the people living in the hills will realise the vital importance in replanting trees in these areas to protect them from floods and erosion," said Bui Xuan Yen, spokesman for the Ministry of Forestry.

A study by the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO), released in April, concluded that 91 per cent of the entire province of Lai Chau had been denuded of forest and blamed uncontrolled cutting by the hill tribes.

A country that had already lost more

than two million hectares (five million acres) of woodland to bombing and defoliation by US forces in the Vietnam war, was now chopping down 150,000 hectares (370,000 acres) of forest each year, it said.

## Slash-and-burn

Most of the destruction was caused by slash-and-burn hill farmers, but the report said 20 million people, almost one third of the population, lived in or around forest areas and wood was usually their only source of fuel.

Soil erosion was so extensive that it

threatened the Soviet-built Hoa Binh dam, one of the biggest single projects in the country down the Red river from Lai Chau, the FAO report said. Silt in the dam's lake would reduce its useful life to 50 from 250 years.

Deforestation in Lai Chau, which includes one of Vietnam's most halcyon sites at Dien Bien Phu where Ho Chi Minh's forces defeated the French colonial army, is extreme. But the problem is nationwide.

Government figures show the total area under forest has fallen from 43 per cent in 1943 to 29 per cent today.

قزاع النخل

## Aussie drug problem grows

SYDNEY, July 17, (AP): The Rolls-Royce and Jaguar showrooms on William Street will open in a couple of hours. Before they do, a city worker sweeps up the used syringes and condoms from a night's business of another kind.

This is King's Cross, a stretch of nightclubs, restaurants and strip joints where virtually anything is for sale.

"This is the sex and drug centre for the whole country," said Dr Sigrid van Beek, director of the Kirrketon road centre, which offers help and medical care. "From midnight to 6 am, if you're looking for prostitution or drugs, it's easy to score around here."

Prostitution is either legal or largely tolerated in Australia, depending on the state, so Sydney police concentrate on controlling the abuse of drugs and alcohol.

The narcotics problem is growing, but is far short of the magnitude in the United States. Crack cocaine and the potent methamphetamine "ice," for instance, have yet to arrive in significant quantities.

Seizures of cocaine at ports and airports rose from 19 kilograms (42 pounds) in the 1988-89 fiscal year to 70 kilograms (nearly 155 pounds) in 1989-90, officials said.

Marijuana comes from South-east Asia and other prime growing areas, and from domestic farming operations that sometimes include huge, irrigated tracts with security systems.

Heroin is smuggled from abroad in increasing quantities. The raw materials for amphetamines are smuggled in, but the drugs are made here.

Customs and the Australian federal police said in a joint statement that most amphetamines "are produced through backyard manufacture in clandestine laboratories."

A survey in 1988, which provides the latest figures available, indicated there were 30,000 to 50,000 drug addicts and 60,000 occasional users among the 12 million Australians aged 14 and older. It said 1.2 million to 1.4 million acknowledged using marijuana in the previous year and 240,000 said they had used amphetamines.

Police suspect that, in an attempt to get around strict inspection of people and goods arriving from known drug areas, dealers are using other South Pacific countries as way stations.

In February, US officials seized a 3,000-kilogramme (6,600-pound) shipment of marijuana from Thailand that had been shipped first to New Zealand, where it was concealed in a shipping container of carpets and woollens.

Tasmania, an island state off the south coast, is one of the few places in the world where opium poppies are grown legally. From the poppy resin, pharmaceutical companies produce morphine and codeine phosphate for export.

Security at the 6,800 hectares (17,000 acres) of poppy fields was tightened recently after 500 grams of resin was found in Victoria state and traced to Tasmania.

Sedatives such as rohypnol and serapax are popular with young people and pharmacists have been accused of selling the drugs at reduced prices to attract customers. Mixing them with heroin has become a deadly practice.

"Of the 54 heroin deaths examined by the institute in the past year, 32 tested positive for benzos (sedatives like rohypnol)," said Stephen Cordner of the Victoria state institute of forensic pathology.

The combination recently killed four teen-age girls in a group of seven who grew up in Redfern, an Aboriginal neighbourhood in Sydney, and were confined together in the Reiby Detention Centre for juveniles.

A fifth, 18-year-old Stephanie Jones, was hospitalised with broken legs and a broken arm after jumping from a police station window. Another was under guard at Reiby, classified as "out of control," and her sister, the seventh in the group, was to be released into a drug-rehabilitation programme.

"The deaths have made me heaps scared, but I want to get off drugs," Stephanie said from her hospital bed. "I don't want to die like that."

Stephanie said she used heroin because she felt "left out."

Some officials have begun to talk of keeping the drug problem under control rather than eliminating it.

Australian Democrats, a small political party, has recommended a government-run distribution service to take drugs away from organised crime.

# Opposition to launch campaign against Roh

SEOUL, July 17, (AP): The leader of South Korea's largest opposition party angrily attacked the government today, claiming the ruling party steamrollered democracy for good when it rushed controversial bills through Parliament.

Kim Dae-jung, head of the opposition Party for Peace and Democracy, said opposition politicians would lead a nationwide campaign against the government of President Roh Tae-woo.

He said opposition politicians, who are demanding new elections, have been "pushed into a

corner where we have to submit or fight. We have decided to fight in a showdown."

Kim said the anti-government fight would be carried out at rallies nation-wide and he urged citizens critical of government policies on housing, rising prices, welfare, exports and land speculation to join.

Meanwhile, talks were under way today for a merger between Kim's Party, which holds 70 of 299 assembly seats, and the splinter Democratic Party, which has eight. Party members have said lawmakers would submit their resignations en masse to the

National Assembly on July 23.

Also today, about 6,500 broadcast workers returned to work, ending a three-day strike over the controversial government bill that helped ignite the parliamentary revolt.

The government is accused of railroad through Parliament legislation to tighten his grip on the nation's news media prior to the 1992 general elections. The government denies it, saying the bill would allow a needed expansion of the monopolized broadcast industry and encourage more programming.

"People's distrust and crit-

## N. Korea suspends parliamentary talks with South

SEOUL, July 17, (AP): Communist North Korea said today it was delaying plans for parliamentary talks with South Korea, apparently because of the turmoil in the South's Parliament.

There was no official response from South Korea.

In a telephone message, the North said it has decided to cut off a planned meeting of South and North Korean legislators Thursday at the border

truce village of Panmunjom, according to the Naewoo press, South Korea's official news agency monitoring North Korean affairs.

North Korea reportedly said a "normal" meeting would be impossible, referring to the South's political crisis.

South Korea's ruling and opposition parties have been locked in bitter confrontations over the passage of controversial government-sponsored

bills through the National Assembly.

All opposition party legislators have offered to resign en masse and intensify their anti-government campaign. They accuse the government of seeking political changes to prolong power.

The North's message today expressed regrets for the South's political problems, and showed its intention to keep the dialogue channel open.

cism of the Roh regime is very high now," said Kim. He blamed the country's political unrest on efforts by Roh's government, big business and the military to

prolong their rule.

New turmoil in Korea's faction-riddled politics and mass resignations in Parliament could precipitate a domestic crisis at a

time when the government is preparing for high-level unification talks between North and South Korea.

It was doubtful, however, that

the parliamentary resignations would be immediately accepted. The Parliament closed a month-long session over the weekend and does not resume until September.



Peering Ridley

Nicholas Ridley, Britain's former trade secretary who resigned last Saturday, peers around the corner of his house at Gloucester on Monday at waiting media people. Ridley resigned in a political row over his anti-German comments in a magazine interview. (Reuters wirephoto)

## UK seeks to limit political damage

### Anti-German remarks

LONDON, July 17, (Reuters): The government of Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher has sought to limit the political and diplomatic damage of anti-German remarks by a senior cabinet minister who resigned under pressure on Saturday.

Deputy Prime Minister Sir Geoffrey Howe in a speech in London on Monday night praised Bonn for upholding civilised values since World War Two.

Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd mended fences at private meetings in Brussels with French and German officials over the remarks by former trade and industry secretary Nicholas Ridley.

Ridley caused uproar in a magazine interview last Thursday by accusing West Germany of wanting to take over Europe and saying the French were acting like the Germans' poodles.

Ridley prompted further outrage by saying in the night-televised Spectator that giving up sovereignty to the European Community would be like surrendering to Adolf Hitler.

In Brussels, Hurd publicly played down the incident which was followed by the leak of a secret and confidential memorandum which listed German national characteristics as including "aggressiveness and bullying."

Thatcher's office on Monday launched an inquiry into the leak of the information which was published by a Sunday newspaper just hours after Ridley resigned. The memo also spoke of German angst, egotism and sentimentality.

It concluded that Thatcher should

"be nice to the Germans."

In parliament, the opposition Labour Party angrily accused Thatcher of lacking the guts and candour "to give a full statement about Ridley's resignation."

Howe appealed to his ruling Conservatives, who face divisions over European union, to be united.

"The important thing for the Conservative Party to do now, in the wake of Nick Ridley's resignation, is to stand together on the common ground of the European policies," Howe said.

"We have a solid record of European commitment and achievement to our name. No one can either jeopardise or weaken that long-term success," he said.

Howe went out of his way to praise West Germany, and treading a delicate path, said he understood the misgivings of older people about a united Germany.

"The events of 1933-45 cannot simply be forgotten. Nobody is suggesting that."

"But no country has made a more strenuous effort to uphold civilised values and act co-operatively with others than West Germany since the war," Howe said.

In Brussels, Dutch Foreign Minister Hans van den Broek said Europeans were apprehensive about the economic power of a united Germany and that such fears should be discussed openly.

Massive aid to Eastern Europe is necessary to avoid economic and political unrest, British opposition leader Neil Kinnock said in a speech.

## No aid for Soviet shift on Nato

PARIS, July 17, (AP): West Germany made no specific aid offer to the Soviet Union to gain approval for a United German to join Nato. West German Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher said today.

Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev yesterday dropped objections to a united Germany's membership in the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation, one of the last big hurdles to German reunification.

"We reached agreement with the Soviet Union of long-term co-operation, but we have not discussed any numbers," Genscher said as seven-nation talks in German unification opened in Paris.

Meeting in the Soviet city of Stavropol, Gorbachev and West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl also agreed to limit the army of a united Germany to 370,000 men.

The two Germans currently have about 600,000 men under arms, 480,000 of whom are in West Germany.

They also agreed to begin negotiations on the complete withdrawal of Soviet soldiers from what is now East German territory. The 380,000 soldiers should be pulled out in three-four years.

The richest nation in Europe, West Germany is expected to increase trade with Moscow. It has already backed a \$3-billion bank loan to the Soviet Union and pushed its allies for a comprehensive plan to bail out Gorbachev's crumbling economy.

The Soviets are also looking to the West Germans for compensation for arms and military contracts with East Germany that will be lost when the unified country enters Nato.

Genscher said that his government "will give our point of view" in ongoing East-West talks in Vienna that are dedicated to reducing US and Soviet troops and conventional arms in Europe.

"Nothing is to be negotiated," he said of the deal reached with the Soviet Union. "We will explain we want to have 370,000 German soldiers for the whole of Germany and hope that will be well-received by everybody."

Genscher made his comments to reporters after a meeting with US Secretary of State James Baker.

They then joined the Soviet, French, British, East German and Polish foreign ministers for the third in a series of negotiation on German reunification.

Gorbachev's acceptance of German membership in Nato took much of the drama out of today's "two-plus-four" talks between the two German states and the four victorious World War II allies.

Poles were specially invited to the third session of the talks to discuss their sensitive western border with Germany, which runs along the Oder and Neisse rivers.

About one-third of present-day Poland belonged to Germany before World War II. The lands were given to Poland to compensate for even larger pre-war Polish territories seized by the Soviet Union.

### Shadow cabinet

BRASILIA, July 17, (UPI): A parallel government set up by leftist opposition parties over the weekend drew scoffs from Brazilian President Fernando Collor de Mello, a spokesman said Monday.

Collor called the shadow cabinet of Brazilian Workers Party President Luis Inacio Lula de Silva a "joke," according to presidential spokesman Claudio Humberto Rosa V. Silva.

# Pan-German polls likely Dec 2: Kohl

## No aspirations to be 'world power': GDR assured

BONN, July 17, (AP): Chancellor Helmut Kohl said today he and Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev had solved all practical problems in the way of German unification and that elections for a united German Parliament were expected on Dec 2.

A beaming Kohl met with reporters the day after returning from the Soviet Union and talks with Gorbachev, who dropped Soviet objections to Nato membership for a united Germany, the most significant obstacle to unification.

Kohl used the occasion to assure his neighbours that Germany had no aspirations to be a "world power" and that German unity would be embedded in the process of European integration.

"The practical problems, which lay before us on the way to German unity, have been solved," Kohl said.

Kohl said joint German elections on Dec 2 were "presumable." But whether East Germany merges with the West under an article of West Germany's constitution before or after the elections had to be decided

by East Berlin, Kohl said.

He also reiterated his position that the capital of a united Germany must be decided by the new Parliament.

East German Prime Minister Lothar de Maiziere, who is pushing for Berlin over Bonn as united Germany's capital, has said the capital must be stipulated in the unification treaty now being prepared.

Kohl and Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher both said today that no specific economic aid was offered to the Soviets for approving a united Germany's right to join Nato. But he emphasised that Gorbachev needed financial help if his programme of economic restructuring is to succeed.

Kohl said he could envision the West Germans helping the Soviets retrain the thousands of soldiers who would return from East Germany and possibly face unemployment, as well as help in supplying housing in general, but "not for a certain category of Soviet residents." West German officials worry about political fallout at home of building housing specifically for returning Soviet troops.

However, Kohl ruled out the possibility that West Germany would be the sole source of financial aid for the Soviets, saying the burden would be too great.

At last week's Houston summit of the world's industrial leaders, Kohl pushed for a \$15-billion international aid package for the Soviet Union. Instead, the leaders asked the International Monetary Fund to study exactly what kind of aid would be most beneficial.

West Germany has already backed a 5-billion-mark (\$3-billion) bank credit to help the Soviet Union shift to a free market economy and has agreed to pay 1.25 billion marks (\$780 million) toward the upkeep of Soviet soldiers stationed in East Germany in the second half of this year.

East Germany today hailed Soviet concessions on German unification but said East Berlin still had differences with Bonn over the status of armed forces in the East.

East German Foreign Minister Markus Meckel welcomed Gorbachev's announcement after two days of talks with Kohl that a united Germany should be a member of Nato.

"The talks between Kohl and Gorbachev are a decisive step toward a mutually acceptable solution to the outstanding questions of uniting Germany," he said in a statement.

De Maiziere also praised Bonn-Moscow accord on West German television, saying the future united country's sovereignty was secured.

But Meckel said there were still differences between Bonn and East Berlin about whether West German troops should be allowed in East Germany.

## German reunification Obstacles remain

BONN, July 17, (AP): Here is a glance at what remains to be done before the two Germans can formally unify.

**State treaty:** Government representatives from Bonn and East Berlin have been working on a state treaty to address legal and constitutional obstacles to formal German unification. West German officials have said they want to address only those points necessary for unification, such as adapting the wording of the West German constitution.

Government negotiators hope to be able to present the treaty to their respective parliaments in September.

**Elections:** East Germany has tentative plans to hold elections on Oct 14 in order to create five state government systems, mirroring West Germany's own federalist system and setting the stage for merger under West Germany's constitution.

Most of the major political factions in both countries have agreed on Dec 2 as the likely date for pan-German elections for a united parliament.

East Germany is expected to become part of West Germany by invoking a clause in the West German constitution that allows former German territories to accede to the union.

However, there is political disagreement over whether East Germany should do this before or after the elections. Also still to be resolved are the differing election laws in the two countries. West Germany requires parties to have a minimum 5 per cent showing for parliamentary representation; East Germany has no such minimum.

**Disagreements:** The leaders of West and East Germany have split over which city — Bonn or Berlin — should be the capital of a united Germany. West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl has said Berlin cannot be the capital as long as Soviet troops are stationed there and that the issue can only be decided by a joint German parliament.

East German Prime Minister Lothar de Maiziere has insisted that Berlin be stipulated as the new capital in the unification treaty under negotiation.

An emotional disagreement also has developed over the countries' differing abortion laws.

**West Germany's national airline:** Lufthansa will make its first post-war flights to Berlin, to bring children from Chernobyl to East Berlin, an airline representative said yesterday.

The East Berlin organisation New Forum arranged for a 747 "superjumbo" jet to fly from East Berlin's Schoenefeld airport to collect the children in the city of Minsk.



Welcome

Soviet children with both their national flag and the West German banner wait for the arrival of President Gorbachev and West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl. (Reuters wirephoto)

## Bonn to help retrieve Berlin art

BONN, July 17, (AP): An East German church is getting help from West Germany to retrieve art treasures believed pilfered by a US soldier at the end of World War II, a West German official said yesterday.

East and West Germany also agreed yesterday to build an information database aimed at obtaining the return of other art works that vanished when the Third Reich crumbled.

A lawsuit has been filed to retrieve the so-called Quedlinburg treasures from bank vaults in Texas already have been started. The Foreign Ministry said yesterday that West Germany would pay the costs.

Bonn's help in meeting the expense will be a major boost for the Lutheran Church of Quedlinburg, which claims its treasures were stolen at the end of World War II, said Klaus Maurich, director of the West German cultural foundation of the states.

"Nobody knew until now who had to pay, but they will pay and this is marvelous," said Maurich.

The Quedlinburg treasures include two rare medieval manuscripts, a jewelled reliquary with ivory carvings and several rock-crystal and ivory objects. They were allegedly removed from a nearby mine shaft where they had been hidden in the final days of the war.

Maurich said there was no doubt the art works in question were authentic. The Quedlinburg treasures, among Germany's most famous art works, were allegedly taken by a US Army officer stationed in Quedlinburg, now East Germany, in 1945, and brought to his hometown of Whitewright, Texas.

# Nato wins Germany, but may face problems with arms cut, US troops presence

BRUSSELS, July 17, (Reuters): Nato has won Germany and at a stroke changed the post-war military balance in Europe.

But military analysts say the alliance, although flushed with victory now, may face problems with arms control and the continued presence of US forces on the continent.

"Nato has triumphed and broken the mould of the Cold War military balance," said Regina Cowen-Karp of the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute.

"But it doesn't really matter anymore, since there is no real threat

from the East and peace has broken out."

East and West Germany, the two most heavily militarised countries on earth, formed the frontline for Nato and the Warsaw Pact during the Cold War.

Occupying the key strategic position in the heart of Europe, the two states are still full of US and Soviet troops and hundreds of nuclear warheads.

When Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev announced yesterday that he would no longer oppose German membership in Nato, he cracked that structure forever.

It means that Nato territory will be extended to the Polish border, that the once-mighty East German army will be disbanded and that the 360,000 Soviet troops based in East Germany will be gone within a few years.

It is also another nail in the coffin of the Warsaw Pact, seriously weakened since democracy came to the countries of Eastern Europe, Nato diplomats say.

"In effect, this means that there will be no more Soviet troops in Eastern Europe, since they are already withdrawing from Hungary and Czechoslovakia," said Hans Binnendijk of

the International Institute for Strategic Studies in London.

But that could have a less than welcome effect for Nato.

The alliance will have to convince people that the US troop presence in Western Europe is still needed, even if there are no Soviet forces on the other side," said Binnendijk.

Nato boasts that it is the only effective forum that locks the United States and Canada into European security.

If US troops — whose presence is now more of a political statement than a military necessity — were to go home, it would seriously undermine the alliance's foundations.

Nato's 16 members, including the United States, are already under enormous popular pressure to cut their armed forces.

Nato Secretary-General Manfred Woerner recently issued a plea not to make unilateral cuts, so that credible, coherent defences could be maintained.

But Cowen-Karp believes Nato's latest victory in winning Germany may increase pressure for quick arms cuts and seriously interfere with the alliance's efforts to keep it all within the ordered framework of East-West arms control.

"People will say: 'Look, the Russians have given in. Let's just get on with reducing our arms spending,'" she said.

Another problem for Nato is how to carry on with Vienna negotiations on cutting conventional forces in Europe (CFE).

An initial agreement, likely to be signed this year, will cut US and Soviet forces in central Europe to 195,000 on each side and scrap thousands of tanks.

But the follow-on talks, aimed at reducing the forces of other countries including those of a united Germany, are going to be difficult.



British nurse Daphne Parish smiles as she exits a plane in Lusaka on Monday, after her unexpected release from captivity in Iraq. Parish was jailed on spying charges in March and was to have served a 15-year sentence.

## Nurse turned over to UK officials

### Kaunda blames British press for Bazoff hanging

LUSAKA, July 17, (AP). President Kenneth Kaunda today turned over a nurse to British officials after she was freed from prison in Iraq at his request.

Daphne Parish, 53, was driven to the home of British High Commissioner Peter Henshiff after spending the night at state house, Kaunda's official residence in Lusaka.

At a brief ceremony, Kaunda prevented Mrs Parish from answering reporters' questions.

Looking tired and drawn, the nurse thanked Kaunda for his role in securing her release from Abu Ghraib prison in Iraq.

"I would like to thank you very much, very deeply for taking the initiative," she said, trembling. "I was very surprised when I first heard I was coming to Zambia. I didn't know it was such a beautiful place."

The British nurse was sentenced to 15 years in jail as an accomplice of a journalist executed in Iraq as a spy.

She was flown to Zambia on an Iraqi registered executive jet after serving one year of her sentence.

Addressing reporters and British officials, Kaunda said he sought Mrs Parish's release on humanitarian grounds. He did not question the validity of the sentence passed by an Iraqi court.

Kaunda said that in a letter he sent to Iraqi President Saddam Hussein, dated March 11, he also asked Saddam to commute the death sentence imposed on journalist Farhad Bazoff.

Describing his release initiative, Kaunda said he had been on close terms with Saddam since the two leaders met at a summit meeting in Cuba in 1979.

In an angry reference to Western news media coverage of Mrs Parish's release, Kaunda said his initiative was interpreted as a tactic to distract the public from the problems facing both Iraq and Zambia.

In its "outrageous coverage," the British press "said Saddam Hussein and myself are using Daphne Parish to cleanse ourselves," Kaunda said. "Zambia was never dirty. This was a genuine humanitarian appeal."

The Zambian leader said he blamed Bazoff's death on British press coverage of events in Iraq and British government hostility toward Saddam.

Mrs Parish said today she was innocent and did not believe Bazoff was a spy.

She said that she drove Bazoff to the blast site and saw nothing wrong in doing that.

"It didn't appear improper at the time. We didn't do anything I considered illegal," she told reporters.

She said she accompanied Bazoff to the military complex on her day off. Other British journalists already had visited the scene and climbed over a perimeter fence, she said.

"We didn't climb over any fences," she said. "As we were driving around, we saw what appeared like coal dust on the side of the road."

Bazoff wanted to collect some of the dust and she gave him a bottle to put it in. "We did this in full view of cars going up and down. We did nothing secretly," she said. "It was all out in the open."

Mrs Parish said she was told Monday morning by guards that she would be released from prison. "I just laughed," she said.

In the prison, she said, inmates played fortune-telling games by "reading tea leaves" in each others' tea cups.

"We said, 'oh yes, you'll be released ... this afternoon.' It was a joke so I thought this was just another joke," she said.

Iraq said it hoped that its release of the British nurse would help improve relations between Baghdad and London.

"I hope this will make relations more friendly," the Iraqi Ambassador to Zambia, Mousa Al Soudani, told reporters after welcoming Parish.

He added: "We want to be friends with every country in the world and we are not against Britain or the British people."

Al Soudani said his government had freed Parish as a gesture of respect to Kaunda.

"It is just the respect of the request of President Kaunda," he said.

British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher sent a personal message to Kaunda thanking him for the intervention, her aides said.

## Albanians look towards West

'Nothing here to live for'

VLORE, Albania, July 17, (AP). Television antennas in Vlore pull in the sounds and sights of another world just 40 miles (70 km) away.

"We all dream of Italy," sighed a waiter at a government-run restaurant.

Residents interviewed randomly yesterday by a reporter on a one-day ferry trip from Italy all expressed a desire to go abroad.

Some appeared to want to live better, while others longed to escape the grip of Europe's last hard-line communist government.

Their quick, whispered comments suggested that the discontent that drove thousands of Albanians to seek refuge recently in embassies in the capital city of Tirana was present in other parts of this tiny Balkan nation too.

"There's nothing in this country to live for," declared a young economist angrily. Like the others interviewed, he declared to be identified. Albanians can receive harsh punishments for contacts with foreigners.

Vlore, 100 kms (60 miles) southwest of Tirana and only 70 kms (40 miles) across the Adriatic Sea from Italy, provides a glimpse of life in Europe's poorest and most isolated country.

Most of its 70,000 residents live in five-storey apartment buildings lined up like so many matchboxes. Laundry flaps from the balconies. In the rocky, white dirt lots around the buildings, thin children in patched clothes and rubber thongs play in a baking sun.

Asked whether residents had problems getting enough food, a mechanic looked around to see if anyone was listening, then nodded.

A silence hangs over the city, due to the near-absence of cars, which are forbidden to private individuals. On the road, palm-lined road to the Vlore port, horses and wagons rattle past bicyclists.

But nearly every building has a television antenna, allowing residents to watch Italian television.

One student, a member of the Roman Catholic minority, said he liked to watch Pope John Paul II on Italian television. Until recently, religious observances were banned in Albania.

"When I see him, I cry," he said.

Nicu accused

## Sibiu killings

SIBIU, July 17, (AP). A former secret police chief testified yesterday at the trial of Nicu Ceausescu that the defendant occasionally opposed the policies of his parents, who ruled this nation with an iron fist for decades.

Nicu Ceausescu is accused of ordering the massacre of 89 civilians during last year's revolution that toppled his father, Nicolae Ceausescu.

Gen. Col Iulian Vlad, who headed Nicolae Ceausescu's secret police, said that Nicu did not ask for any special security measures in Sibiu, the southern Transylvanian town where he was party boss, during the revolution.

But according to the indictment, Nicu Ceausescu ordered troops to "shoot without warning." As a result of the orders, allegedly given in a Dec 17 conference telephone call with regional leaders, 89 people were killed in Sibiu, the indictment says.

Nicu Ceausescu, now 40, had been party boss in the city since 1987. Vlad said Nicu had "a distaste" for his father's secret police "including many in its leadership." It was not clear if the general counted himself among that number.

Vlad said there were "several occasions" during which Nicu was the only member of the state leadership to openly oppose his parents' policies.

The EC nations disagreed yesterday whether to sign a trade and economic co-operation accord with Romania which they suspended in June after the suppression of anti-government protest in Bucharest, officials said.

Nicu Ceausescu (left) stands in the dock charged with genocide, as his trial resumes in Sibiu town. (Reuters wirephoto)

He was reinstated in communist ranks after strongman Todor Zhivkov was ousted last November in a political coup.

It was not clear when the grand national assembly will elect the new head of state. President Petar Mladenov resigned on July 6.

Two Soviet citizens have applied for asylum in Bulgaria, once one of Moscow's most loyal allies, a newspaper reported yesterday.

## Uproar marks opening session

SOFIA, July 17, (AP). The opening session of Bulgaria's freely elected parliament was marked today by a misunderstanding illustrating the opposition's inexperience with democratic procedure.

The furor erupted when Chavdar Kyranov, the presidential candidate of the ruling Socialist Party, tried to address the session.

Opposition deputies shouted and stamped their feet, not knowing that their own leadership had agreed to the late morning speech.

"Conspiracy," shouted radical Democratic Party member Milail Nedelchev, one of the two new Union of Democratic Forces spokesmen, as he protested Kyranov taking the floor. Others cited a breach of parliamentary procedure.

The uproar was finally quieted by Premier Andrei Lukanov who told the House of the Agreement, and UDF chairman Zhelyu Zhelev confirmed it.

The outburst followed indications that the 16-party opposition alliance is cracking after the nomination last week of Social Democratic Party leader Petar Derteliev as UDF presidential candidate.

Milan Drenchev, head of the Nikola Petkov Agrarian Party, a UDF member, strongly objected last week to Derteliev's nomination. But he and other opponents were evidently overruled.

The Socialists, the former Communist Party, won 211 seats in the 400-seat parliament last month during the first free elections in 58 years. The UDF garnered 144 seats.

The ethnic Turkish Movement for Rights and Freedoms won 23 seats, and the mainstream Agrarian Party, the longtime ally of the communists, took 16 deputies.

The Agrarians nominated their chairman, Viktor Valkov, 54, as their presidential candidate.

When Kyranov, 69, was finally allowed to speak, he stressed the importance of unity, appealing to patriotic sentiment.

"Bulgaria is above all, above anyone. Bulgaria is above the opposition and above the majority (former communists) as well, because in the whole economic, political and social pluralism there is one Bulgaria," he said.

"It is in the name of this Bulgarian that the parliament of democracy, peace, renovation and truth should work," said Kyranov, a widely respected figure once expelled from the Communist Party for his commitment to reform.

He was reinstated in communist ranks after strongman Todor Zhivkov was ousted last November in a political coup.

It was not clear when the grand national assembly will elect the new head of state. President Petar Mladenov resigned on July 6.

Two Soviet citizens have applied for asylum in Bulgaria, once one of Moscow's most loyal allies, a newspaper reported yesterday.

## Gorbachev picks ally for top job

Moscow wants to reschedule some debts on better terms

MOSCOW, July 17, (Reuters). Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev today appointed close political ally Vadim Medvedev to his Presidential Council, the new top organ of power.

Medvedev, 61, a close Gorbachev adviser on ideology, was heckled and jeered by delegates at this month's conservative-dominated Communist Party congress for allegedly failing to uphold traditional communism.

One angry conservative waved a red card at him, aping a football referee expelling a player from the game.

Today's announcement, reported by Tass news agency, gave no details but the council was apparently being increased to 17 members from 16.

The council, whose members are all nominated by the president, is fast taking over the pre-eminent position traditionally held by the party's politburo.

The party congress marked the transfer of status to the council, which came into being in March after Gorbachev's election as president.



Gorbachev announces that Moscow will accept Nato membership of a united Germany in a joint news conference with Kohl in Moscow. (Reuters wirephoto)

## Milosevic pledges a new brand socialism

Party president

BELGRADE, July 17, (Reuters). Serbia's populist leader Slobodan Milosevic was overwhelmingly elected president of the new Socialist Party in Yugoslavia's biggest republic today and vowed to create a new brand of socialism.

Milosevic pledged to make the new party — described by opposition parties as a ploy to keep the communists in power — different from Serbia's Communist Party.

The Socialist Party was created when the Serbian Communist Party voted on Monday to merge with the pro-communist Socialist Alliance to improve its image before free elections expected to be held next year.

"We have to build a new socialism in accordance with the great changes of today and in accordance with the coming times," Milosevic said as he took charge of the new party.

"The time of the left is ahead," he told the Socialist Party of Serbia's founding congress in Belgrade.

Milosevic won 1,299 votes against 66 for Radmila Andjeljkovic, the former president of the Socialist Alliance umbrella organisation. The congress also elected a 111-member chief policy-making committee.

Milosevic, 48, has been Serbian president since May 1989 and is a former Communist Party chief. He rose to power on a wave of Serbian nationalism but has antagonised Yugoslavia's other ethnic groups.

He has led a campaign to curb the autonomy of Serbia's mainly ethnic Albanian Kosovo province where more than 50 people, mostly Albanians, have been killed in protests against Serbian rule in the last 18 months.

His republic has been slower than other parts of the country and Eastern Europe to allow democratic changes.

Milosevic told the congress the party would not compromise with right-wing parties and would fight for a "richer and more just world."

"The Socialist Party will build its identity on the demands of the times and of the times which are ahead," he said.

## Welcome to Soviet opposition

SHANNON, Ireland, July 17, (AP). The United States is prepared to open a dialogue with Soviet President Mikhail S. Gorbachev's sharp critics if they form a legitimate non-communist opposition.

Secretary of State James A. Baker III said.

Boris N. Yeltsin, President of the Russian federal republic, led the Gorbachev foes who quit the Communist Party during the party Congress in Moscow last week and began forming a national opposition coalition.

Baker said it wasn't clear whether Yeltsin and the others who quit the party "are going to develop any kind of multi-party democracy."

"We don't know yet if that is going to happen," Baker said. "If it does happen, we ought to approach it as we have in other countries."

Baker expects to get a report on the congress during a meeting tomorrow in Paris with Soviet foreign minister Eduard A. Shevardnadze.

Baker's offer to open a dialogue with the Soviet radical reformers who quit the Communist Party could enhance their stance.

The radicals, who include Gavril K. Popov, head of the Moscow government, and Anatoly A. Sobchak, the Leningrad city council leader, challenged Gorbachev to move faster on free-market reforms.

They say they doubt the party is able to lead the country to democracy and prosperity.

The skills of Ozkan and the hygienic conditions under which he performs are not mirrored in much of rural Turkey.

## 'Turning point in Mideast conflict'

DAMASCUS, July 17, (Reuters). Syria said today President Hafez Al Assad's visit to Alexandria early this week to meet Egyptian leader Hosni Mubarak would alter the balance of power in the Middle East.

Diplomats, however, were not predicting immediate concrete results from the three-day summit that ended yesterday.

"The Assad-Mubarak summit opens a bright new page...an important turning point in the Arab-Israeli conflict," said the official daily Al Thawra.

"It will change the balance of power in the region in the interest of the Arab nation and its people and turn upside down the schemes of our enemies."

A Western envoy shrugged off the trip as "a giant photo opportunity...a hopeful Arab diplomat said: 'It tends more towards peace than to war because the Syrian-Egyptian rapprochement will form a strong Arab force pressing for peace.'

George Habash, radical leader of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP), regarded the summit as a tactical move by Assad and did not expect any softening of Syria's antagonism to Israel.

But another radical Palestinian leader based in Damascus, Nayef Hawatmeh of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine (DFLP), called it "a step in the right direction."

He expected it could lead to a settlement of Syria's longstanding quarrel with Iraq.

Assad, a hardliner on the Arab-Israeli conflict and one of the last Arab leaders to accept Egypt's return to the Arab fold, travelled to Egypt's Mediterranean port of Alexandria on Saturday to meet Mubarak.

A brief statement from the two presidents gave nothing of the substance of their talks.

It was Assad's first visit to Egypt in nearly 14 years — since before Cairo's 1979 peace treaty with Israel. He bypassed Cairo, which some saw as a snub to the only Arab capital in which Israel has an embassy.

But the Syrian leader is expected to attend an Arab summit planned for Cairo in November.

Before flying home, Assad also visited Sharm Al Sheikh in the Sinai peninsula, a tacit blessing of the fruits of the separate peace that allowed Egypt to recover Sinai from Israeli occupation.

While Israeli officials said they hoped the Alexandria talks would draw Assad towards the Egyptian position, Syrian news media presented the trip as a step towards Arab solidarity, with many historical references to the strategic advantages of a Syrian-Egyptian alliance.

DFLP leader Hawatmeh told Reuters: "The Alexandria summit is a step in the right direction for a full Egyptian-Syrian understanding on the elements of a comprehensive and balanced settlement in the Middle East."

He said Egyptian-Syrian differences had been very deep but could now be brought together on the basis that the Arab-Israeli conflict should be settled by an international conference — an approach Israel rejects.

The benefits, he predicted, would include successful Egyptian mediation in Syria's feud with Iraq.

Letter to Rajavi

## US Congress criticises Iran

WASHINGTON, July 17, (AP). More than 160 members of Congress wrote to the leader of Iran's largest opposition movement today criticising Tehran's "medieval dictatorship" and its use of terrorism to eliminate opponents.

The letter to Massoud Rajavi, leader of the Iraqi-based People's Mujahadeen of Iran, was initiated by congressman Mervyn M. Dymally and signed by 100 house Democrats and 62 Republicans.

It expressed the lawmakers' condolences to Rajavi over the machine-gun killing of his brother Kazem Rajavi by an Iranian squad in Switzerland last April.

Swiss police have confirmed that one or more Iranian government services were involved in the assassination and are continuing the investigation.

Rajavi's widow, Michelle, met in Washington last week with Dymally, a Democrat and other members of Congress to discuss the Iranian government's involvement in the killing.

"Dr Rajavi's assassination is but more proof of Tehran's continuing insistence to use terrorism as the principal and indispensable pillar of its foreign policy," said the letter.

## Turkey's school summer holidays are boom time for circumcision king

ANKARA, July 17, (Reuters). Turkey's school summer holidays are boom time for circumcision king Kemal Ozkan.

"Each year about one million boys come of circumcision age in Turkey," 58-year-old paramedic Ozkan said.

Up to 20 boys a day will pass through his private Istanbul clinic with proud parents paying as much as half a million lira (\$200) for the privilege.

"Few of them are taken to hospitals because the hospitals are full and mostly equipped for major surgeries," he said.

Circumcision is one of the most strictly observed religious practices in secular, though predominantly Muslim, Turkey.

Muslim families, 99 per cent of Turkey's 55 million population, regard circumcision as the first step to manhood. Turkish doctors consider circumcision a hygienic and prophylactic practice.

Dr Demokan Erol, chief urologist in an Ankara hospital, said: "Research shows that in communities where early-age circumcision is widely practised, cancers of the male genitalia have a very low incidence."

"I say the best age is from five to nine." Why is the operation, usually performed without anaesthetic, not done on babies at birth?

"The boys must be able to remember the occasion," said Ozkan, with 58,000 circumcisions to his credit in his 26-year career.

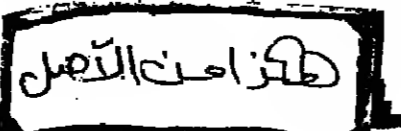
And what an occasion it is for Turkish boys as families indulge their every whim and shower them with presents before the painful but blessedly brief surgery.

However poor the family, all Turkish boys preparing for circumcision wear an embroidered satin pillow box hat and sash.

Though painkillers are rarely part of the ritual, each boy is accompanied by an adult male comforter to give him courage as he faces the knife.

The male companion or kive assumes lifelong obligations to the boy, much like a Christian godfather.

The skills of Ozkan and the hygienic conditions under which he performs are not mirrored in much of rural Turkey.



# ME may face war over Soviet Jews

WASHINGTON, July 17. (Agencies): King Hussein of Jordan said in a television interview yesterday that war could break out in the Middle East over the rising number of Soviet Jewish immigrants.

"This area seems to be facing a very bleak and very dangerous future at this point," Hussein told ABC television in an interview taped yesterday morning in the Jordanian capital of Amman.

"There is predicted to be about a million (Soviet Jewish immigrants) over the next 18 months," Hussein said in the interview to be aired in the late evening.

"The limitations of what is available, even in terms of water, makes it impossible to see how everyone's going to fit in without something happening," he said.

When asked if tensions in the region could escalate into full-scale war, Hussein replied, "It seems to be a tunnel towards which everyone is moving."

"We don't seem to see the light at the end of the tunnel," said Hussein, warning that a conflict to rival 1967's Six-Day War could erupt.

The Jordanian king, viewed as a moderate Arab by many Western nations, said the likelihood of war intensified after an easing in Soviet emigration laws under President Mikhail Gorbachev.

Gorbachev's policy, which unleashed a tide of Jewish immigrants into the region, exacerbated existing disputes over land rights and angered Arabs who were allies of Moscow.

About 50,000 Soviet Jews arrived in Israel between January and June and about 250,000 are expected by the end of 1990. Nearly 1.3 million Jews have applied in Moscow for visas.

"It appears as if these people (the immigrants) are likely to deny others their human rights. Namely, people in the occupied territories, in Palestine," said Hussein.

Not all go to Israel, some wait for US visas

## 107,000 Soviets emigrate

MOSCOW, July 17. (Agencies): A record 107,000 Soviet citizens were granted permission to emigrate to Israel in the first six months of 1990, Interior Minister Vadim Bakatin said yesterday.

But it appeared not all went to Israel after emigrating. The number of Soviet arrivals in the first half of 1990 was just over 50,000, an Israeli immigration official said two weeks ago.

In the past many Soviet Jews allowed to emigrate to Israel have gone instead to Rome or Vienna to wait for US visas.

More than 60,000 Jews left the Soviet Union in all of 1989, but many went to the United States. The previous annual record for Jewish emigration was 51,330 in 1979.

Bakatin told a news conference only 4,000 Soviet citizens emigrated with visas for the United States in the

first half of 1990. He said he did not know how many of those with visas for Israel were actually heading for the United States.

He said a total of 196,000 Soviet citizens had emigrated so far this year, some 63,000 to West Germany and 15,000 to Greece.

The number of Israelis living abroad and wish to abandon their Israeli citizenship is increasing, Israeli press reports said today.

Israeli daily Yedout Ahranout, quoting the director of population department at Israeli Interior Ministry, said the wave of emigration is increasing among Israelis. Israelis who asked to abandon their Israeli citizenship in 1986 reached 1,450 and that number is on the rise, according to information at the ministry.

Hundreds of Israelis gave up their citizenship in Western Europe and the United States.

Blaming Israel for heightening tensions, Hussein said Arabs had worked consistently for peace. "I don't think that the Arabs have been aggressive. Over

many, many years they've been seeking peace. It is on the Israeli side that the problem is," he said. He also criticised the United States for suspending dialogue

with the Palestinian Liberation Organisation.

King Hussein of Jordan left today for Yemen Republic on a three-day visit.

# Ruling against Sharon plan



Homeless Israelis breathe on Monday as they resist arrest while police attempt to put them into a police van. Police dispersed 40 homeless Israelis who blocked a road and burned tyres in protest over the housing shortage which has forced thousands of Israelis to live in tents. A young girl cries, lower right, partially hidden. (Reuters wirephoto)

Emergency regulations for housing

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, July 17. (AP): Israel's Supreme Court today cancelled emergency regulations initiated by Housing Minister Ariel Sharon to speed the construction of homes for thousands of Soviet immigrants.

The decision comes as a housing shortage is developing in Israel. Up to 150,000 Soviet immigrants are expected to arrive this year, and tent cities are springing up across the country as protests by Israelis who say subsidies for immigrants are driving up rents and pricing others out

## UN chief summons Big Five meeting

UNITED NATIONS, July 17. (Reuters): Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar yesterday called in the five powers on the UN Security Council to reiterate his concerns about the worsening situation in the Israeli-occupied territories, diplomatic sources said.

The UN chief took the unusual step of briefing the United States, the Soviet Union, Britain, France and China after he had already issued his full 15-nation council in closed session on reports from his envoy who recently visited the territories.

According to diplomats close to the meeting, the UN chief wanted the five to become more closely involved on ways to provide protection to the Palestinian population on the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

The United States recently vetoed Security Council action in the territories and some diplomats speculated Perez de Cuellar hoped Washington in future would support some kind of UN measures to ease tensions.

Perez de Cuellar was reported to be concerned about allegations of night-time raids on Palestinian homes, collective punishment and vigilante groups in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Spokesman Francois Giliand said that the secretary-general's envoy, Jean-Claude Aklonis, who visited Israel and the territories from June 22 to July 1, would return again but no date had been set.

The United States on May 31 vetoed a council resolution to despatch a mission to the territories and recommend ways of protecting the Palestinian inhabitants.

At the time, US Ambassador Thomas Pickens said the resolution could be "misused to generate needless controversy and dispute in the area."

Subsequently, Israel, in an apparent effort to defuse Arab demands, issued an invitation for Aklonis, a senior official to the secretary-general's office, to visit the territories.

Israeli troops shot and wounded 11 Palestinian protesters in Gaza Strip yesterday and entered Rafah town and refugee camp for the first time in months to order residents to cease Palestinian nationalist protest.

Hospital officials said soldiers wounded eight Arabs in the Rafah area of the Egyptian border, two in Nuseirat camp and one in Bureil camp. An army spokesman said one Palestinian was slightly wounded in Nuseirat camp.

Rafah residents said troops raided the town and refugee camp before dawn and ordered people out of their homes to whitewash nationalist graffiti, remove banned Palestinian flags and clean the streets.

After the army withdrew, dozens of masked activists returned to the streets to paint new slogans. One, by the fundamentalist Islamic Resistance Movement Hamas, urged people to resign the 31-month Palestinian uprising against Israeli rule.

In the West Bank, troops wounded two protesters, Palestinians said.

of the housing market.

An Israeli legal expert said the Supreme Court decision was "revolutionary". It was the first time the court challenged the government's use of "emergency regulations" dating from 1948 instead of gaining approval for programmes from parliament.

Sharon, who also serves as cabinet co-ordinator of immigration, had asked to use emergency regulations to allow the purchase of 3,000 prefabricated homes, either locally or abroad. The cabinet approved it July 1.

Under "emergency regulations", the prefabricated units were to be set up near nine Israeli towns; most in the Galilee in the north and in the southern Negev desert.

Some politicians expressed fears that Sharon would try to take undemocratic actions, assuming powers delegated to planning councils and zoning boards.

The three-judge Supreme Court panel issued its ruling after a liberal legislator, Abraham Poraz of the Shinui Party, appealed against Sharon's use of emergency regulations.

In his appeal, Poraz argued that Sharon used emergency regulations at a time when the Knesset, or parliament, was debating the housing crisis. Last week, the Knesset passed a law which significantly shortened housing license procedures.

"Emergency regulations are an anti-democratic act... that should be used only in difficult, exceptional situations, when there is no other choice," Poraz said on Israeli army radio.

"The question was this, can you use emergency regulations when you have a legal alternative according to the Knesset laws. The Supreme Court gave the answer I expected — no," Poraz said.

The government argued in its court response that emergency regulations were needed to ease the housing crisis created by the mass influx of Soviet Jews.



Cooling down

A homeless Israeli woman cools down on Monday as she washes dishes at a water tap installed opposite the Knesset (parliament) where scores of homeless Israelis have begun living in tents. On Sunday, Israeli Housing Minister Ariel Sharon said 50,000 beds will be made available in hotels, hostels, collective farms and military bases in order to ease pressures on the housing market (Reuters wirephoto)

## Somali polls in February

Rulers want peace

LONDON, July 17. (AP): Somalia's Government said yesterday it has ordered that a referendum be held on a new constitution and that long-awaited multiparty elections be held in February.

The announcement, carried by state radio and monitored by the British Broadcasting Corp, said the government also sought reconciliation with opposition groups.

The broadcast from the Somali capital, Mogadishu, said the referendum will be held on Oct 31 and the pledged parliamentary and local elections will follow on Feb 1, 1991.

The cabinet on Thursday endorsed "implementation of the democratisation of the country's political system," the broadcast said without explaining why the announcement was delayed.

"The government... will as a matter of urgency appoint a committee to seek peace and reconciliation with opposition groups," the radio said. Membership of the committee and its powers had still to be determined, the report said.

It said two ministerial committees were being set up to make a "serious study of the country's internal and external policies and the economy" and make recommendations to the government.

The radio said the government

had appointed a committee to prepare a law covering parties and elections for presentation to the current session of the people's assembly.

Somalia, in the horn of Africa, is one of the world's poorest countries with a largely nomadic population of 5.8 million.

After Army Maj Gen Mohammed Siad Barre seized power in a 1969 coup, the country was racked by a long territorial conflict with neighbouring Ethiopia.

Since May 1988 government troops have also fought the oppositions Somali National movement in the north.

Some 400,000 people have fled into Ethiopia to escape the fighting. Thousand more have fled to Kenya to escape fighting in the south between the government and the Somali Patriotic Movement.

The government said last August that political parties other than the governing Somali Revolutionary Socialist Party would be permitted to contest the next parliamentary elections.

Italy today applauded the release of 45 prominent Somali dissidents, accused of distributing a manifesto calling for the removal of President Mohamed Siad Barre, and promised its support for reforms.

A Somali court on Sunday found the 45 not guilty, ruling that there was insufficient evidence against them.

## Ethiopian influx slowed by Soviets

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, July 17. (AP): Ethiopian leaders charged yesterday that Israel was slowing immigration of Jews from Ethiopia because of problems caused by the massive influx of Soviet Jews into the country.

Rahamim Elazar, chairman of the public council for Ethiopian affairs, told Israel radio that authorities were using doubts over the Jewishness of Ethiopian visa applicants as a pretext for reducing the flow of immigrants to Israel.

"Because of all the problems here with the thousands of Soviet Jewish immigrants, the government doesn't want more arrivals right now," Elazar said.

Israel is in the throes of an acute housing shortage as a result of the massive influx of Soviet immigrants, expected to total 150,000 this year.

The shortage has sparked some violent demonstrations by Israelis bitter over huge increases in rental prices as well as the financial benefits extended to the newly arrived immigrants.

Elazar's accusation came two days after Israel's Ambassador to Ethiopia, Meir Joffe, reportedly told the New York Times an agreement existed between Israel and Ethiopia to suspend emigration while the Jewish background of applicants was verified.

But a Foreign Ministry official who requested anonymity said no such agreement existed.

Israel does not have any policy of slowing down the coming of Ethiopian Jews to Israel," the official said. "The immigration is going on normally."

But Elazar said the rate of immigration from Ethiopia had slowed significantly in the last month, down from approximately 500 arrivals a month since lies between the two nations were resumed last October.

Foreign Ministry officials said Joffe would explain his statement when he arrived in Israel "on a routine visit" in the coming days, the Hebrew daily Hadashot reported yesterday.

Israel has sought to bring out all of Ethiopia's Jews since immigration was cut off in 1984 when a secret airlift campaign known as Operation Moses was halted when news of it leaked to the media, to the embarrassment of Ethiopia's Marxist government.

Some 8,000 Ethiopian Jews were brought to Israel in the US-supported, three-month operation. About 15,000 Jews are reported to remain in Ethiopia.

Some 12,000 Ethiopian Jews are camped in front of the Israeli embassy in Addis Ababa waiting to be allowed to leave for Israel, Israeli journalists reported.

## Collins to press for Keenan's freedom on tour

DUBLIN, July 17. (Reuters): Irish Foreign Minister Gerry Collins is expected to work for the release of Beirut hostage Brian Keenan on his tour of Ireland next week, an Irish Foreign Ministry spokesman said today.

Collins, a member of a European Economic Community mission visiting Israel next Monday and the Arab League in Tunis on Tuesday, would discuss efforts to free Keenan who had spent four years in captivity, the spokesman added.

A report by the Iranian news agency Irna 10 days ago led to speculation that Keenan, who has Irish and British nationality, would soon be released.

But nothing has been heard from his captors and on Monday a report in an Iranian newspaper dashed hopes further.

Kayhan International said the West's failure to press for the release of three Iranian hostages in Lebanon and Arabs jailed by Israel would hinder efforts by Tehran and Damascus to win the freedom of 15 Western hostages.

Syria said that Israeli bombing raids on south Lebanon had also harmed prospects for Keenan's release.

Collins will have an opportunity to voice Irish condemnation of all hostage-taking and to criticise the Israeli bombing raid. "Mr Collins never hides his views," the ministry spokesman said.

In an attempt to restart the apparently stalled efforts to free Keenan, Ireland has sent diplomats to Syria and Lebanon.

In Beirut on Tuesday, Irish envoy Adrian McDaid held talks with British ambassador David Tatman.

'What we think has to happen': State Department

## US terms for PLO unchanged

WASHINGTON, July 17. (Reuters): The United States said yesterday its conditions for renewing talks with the Palestine Liberation Organisation remain unchanged despite PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat's rejection of them.

"We've stated very clearly what we think has to happen before we can resume the dialogue," State Department spokesman Richard Boucher said. "Those things are not changing."

Arafat told Arab foreign ministers' meeting in Tunis that the PLO rejected the US conditions.

"We do not accept conditions and orders imposed on us. We are a legitimate liberation organisation which the international community

believes in and supports," Tunis Radio quoted him as telling the closed-door session on Sunday.

On Monday the Arab ministers said they stood behind the PLO position and would try to persuade Washington to resume talks with the PLO on new foundations.

President George Bush suspended talks with the PLO on June 30 and said they could not resume unless the PLO renounced a sea raid against Israel and disciplined a PLO leader, Abu Abbas, who claimed responsibility for the raid.

Abbas has torpedoed a PLO plan aimed at reviving dialogue, senior PLO sources said yesterday.

The officials said that under a compromise proposed by Egyptian

Foreign Minister Esmat Abdel-Meguid, Abbas would resign from PLO's executive committee.

Washington would then resume its dialogue with the PLO through ambassador Robert Pelletreau Jr in Tunis, and within a few weeks elevate the level of contacts, they said.

"The chairman's in a corner," a senior PLO official said. "If he acts against Abu Abbas he'll appear to be bowing to America and incense the radicals in the movement even further."

"If he doesn't, the dialogue will remain severed."

Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak's government has been trying to mediate a resumption of the dialogue.

### MIDEAST BRIEFS

**Iraq discusses draft:** Iraq's parliament on Monday began debating a draft constitution that would legalise more political parties and extended press freedom.

The official Iraqi News Agency (INA) quoted Parliament Speaker Saadi Mahdi Saleh as saying the draft aimed to "organise the life of the Iraqis on a clear democratic basis."

The document was drawn up by the Revolutionary Command Council led by President Saddam Hussein and by leaders of the ruling Baath Party. (Reuters)

**France and Iraq reach debt pact:** France and Iraq have reached a new agreement, last Friday in Paris, on rescheduling the five billion franc (\$0.89 billion) debt due for payment in 1990, the economic daily "Les Echos" reported in its yesterday's edition.

According to the daily, under that accord, Baghdad will immediately pay some 1.5 billion francs (\$0.27 billion) in several installments, and the remaining 3.5 billion francs (\$0.62 billion) will be rescheduled for payment over six years, starting 1993. (Kuna)

**Hellenistic treasure:** The Turkish government will ask the United Nations to help it get back a 2,200-year-old Hellenistic monument from the Berlin museum.

A high-level Cultural Ministry official, who requested anonymity, told the Associated Press yesterday that the government would fully support a campaign launched last month by the mayor Bergama, the Aegean coastal town which was the original site of the horse-shoe-shaped Zeus Altar of Pergamon. (Ber-gama)

The monument was moved to Berlin by a German engineer in 1880. (AP)

**Publisher wants to reduce order:** An Israeli Arab publisher appealed to the Supreme Court on Monday to overturn or reduce a three-month closure order against his Islamic newspaper, accused of inciting violence against the Jewish state.

Israel's Itia news agency said Jibni Ali Salah, publisher of Sawt Al Haq Wal Hurriyeh (The Voice of Truth and Freedom), denied government arguments that the weekly, ordered closed on July 8, was a mouthpiece for the outlawed fundamentalist Islamic resistance movement Hamas in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Hamas is one of the bodies directing a 31-month-old Palestinian uprising against Israeli occupation of the territories. (Reuters)

### Hang-glider attack

#### Israel warns PLF

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, July 17. (Reuters): Israel's Air Force commander said yesterday he thought Palestinian fighters would try to attack Israel by hang-glider after the failure of a seaborne raid on Israeli beaches in May.

Major-General Avihu Bin-Nun warned Abu Abbas's Palestine Liberation Front, a PLO faction, to think twice before doing so.

"We see the purchase of hang-gliders, training on hang-gliders, threats to use hang-gliders as part of an overall plan to penetrate the country by air," Bin-Nun told reporters.

"We would recommend that Abu Abbas and his members guard their training grounds and their suppliers and think carefully before making such threats."

Israeli planes made four raids in four days against pro-Iranian Hezbollah bases in Lebanon earlier this month.

Defence Minister Moshe Arens said afterwards that groups in Lebanon were planning hang-glider attacks. Military sources said Hezbollah had expanded co-operation with radical Palestinian commando groups there.

**Jordan police arrest Spaniards:** Jordanian police on Monday arrested two Spanish men and seized their loot in what Amman's police chief said was Jordan's first rank holdup.

Amman police chief, Brig. Ghaleb Zoubi, said the armed robbery took place at the British Grindleys Bank in Marka near Amman.

He said the incident is "a unique case since it is the first in the history of the kingdom." The independent Kingdom of Jordan was established in 1946.

Zoubi told reporters one of the alleged robbers is Spanish by birth and the other is a Spaniard of Jordanian origin. He declined to identify them. (AP)

**Palestinian student can stay in US:** An immigration judge has ruled a Palestinian student the government tried to deport because of his alleged links to a militant group may remain in the United States, attorneys said on Monday. (UPI)

ISLAMABAD, July 17. (AP): Muslim rebels yesterday dismissed Afghan President Najibullah's offer to relinquish some of his sweeping powers as mere propaganda.

"Najibullah is a war criminal. His offer is completely and totally unacceptable. He must be removed completely," said Najibullah Lafrey, a spokesman for a provisional rebel government headquartered in Pakistan.

But diplomatic sources said

Najibullah's offer could improve the odds of a political pact when senior Soviet and US officials meet tomorrow. The offer was reportedly made in an interview with the British Broadcasting Corporation.

The 12-year war between Muslim insurgents, who are bankrolled by Washington, and Afghanistan's Soviet-style government is expected to dominate the Paris talks. Secretary of State James Baker and Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze will lead their respective delega-

tions. Diplomats who spoke on condition of anonymity said Washington is ready to allow Najibullah to remain as president, but in name only.

But even that concession from Washington would have been unthinkable 17 months ago, when the last Soviet troops left Afghanistan after nine years of direct intervention.

A meeting last week in Rome between Peter Tomson, US special envoy to the

Afghan rebels, and ex-King Zahir Shah was seen as another compromise from Washington, according to several Western and Afghan sources.

US Embassy officials refused to confirm or deny the meeting.

The former monarch has been touted as the only Afghan able to unite the nation's warring factions, with the exception of the Islamic fundamentalists. However, those fundamentalists have threatened to kill Shah if he returns.

## 'Najibullah is a war criminal': Afghan rebels dismiss offer

## KUWAIT ... GULF

## Upgrade performance of MOC technicians: Mayal

### Privatisation of some services suggested

FORMER assistant undersecretary for telegraph and telephone affairs at the Ministry of Communications, Mubarak Al Mayal said that it is necessary to develop the work of technicians and upgrade their performance. He added that he supports transferring some government establishments to the private sector.

In an interview with a local daily, he pointed out that it is essential to develop comprehensive, unified and joint telecommunication centres among GCC states and also unify international call charges among GCC states. He indicated that

nuisance calls or eaves-droppings should be referred to legal authorities.

He indicated that telephone lines should not be disconnected by the ministry before telephone bills are paid in full.

He started that administrative development in the government and other sectors should be coupled with new policies and programmes aimed at administrative reforms and upgrading of employees performance.

He pointed out that a decline in performance is caused by many factors including

unemployment, hiring unqualified employees, inability to set standards and the use of administrative facilities and methods.

Mayal was in favour of transferring some government establishments to the private sector and commented that subscribers should pay for such services. He added that recruitment of national manpower in the private sector should take on a wider meaning without putting into consideration cheaper manpower.

He proposed that telephone calls made between GCC states should enjoy low

charges. He stressed on the importance of the Gulf area which he said forms a link between west and east. Efforts should be exerted for the formation of wider scale telecommunications applying satellite technology, he said.

He supported the idea of transferring ministry mobile telephone services to the private sector on that account that comprehensive studies should be conducted to develop the current system in addition to providing subscribers with adequate spare parts services.

## Asian influx to continue: report

### Cheap labour exploited

IT has been wondered whether Kuwaiti and Arab people have become strangers in Kuwait due to the influx of Asian manpower and with Asian labour camps sprouting everywhere. In hospitals, patients cannot communicate with Asian nurses and Kuwaiti children have begun to speak in languages learnt from these Asian maids, a daily said.

Asian manpower constituted 35 per cent of the expatriate population in 1985 compared to 16 per cent in 1976. Arab manpower dropped to 63.3 per cent in 1985 compared to 80 per cent in 1976.

The secretary of the Kuwait Labourers Union, Ali Al Kandiri warned of the ill-effects of the continued dependence on Asian manpower and commented that this will lead to the collapse of the economic situation. "They cause social tragedies in our country because they have different values than ours. Arab manpower is still the most qualified and efficient," he added.

Lawyer Ibrahim Al Attari attributed the dependence of the private sector on Asian workers to the general policy of the state and the economic point of view of companies. He added that the existence of the maid in the house has become a vital part of daily life of Kuwaiti families. He also warned of the economic risks of the increasing numbers of Asian workers in the country. He commented that most of them save their income and do not spend anything in the local market. They live in camps and have a military style of life.

The chairman of a local cleaning company, Saud Al Rukhsa agreed that large numbers of Asian workers in Kuwait is dangerous and supported the proposal to use Arab trained manpower. He commented that Arab manpower is expensive compared to Asians.

**Trend**  
He added that a dangerous trend is emerging whereby local cleaning and contracting companies, hospitals and other establishments contract to hire cheap foreign manpower to run their productive and operational activities and services.

Contracting with Asian labour to work "at a pittance" is a policy which in reality increases profits of these companies and establishments, but it is destructive to the balance of local manpower.

Since 1975 there has been a basic change in the combination of immigrants to Kuwait. The biggest Arab community was the Palestinian-Jordanian community that formed 39 per cent of non-Kuwaitis in 1975, 8 per cent of expatriates were Indians and Pakistanis. There is a noticeable increase in population of Asians coming from the Far East in the last decade especially from Philippines, South Korea and Sri Lanka. One vital reason is the increase of development after 1975 that prompted Arab countries to export more workers. This led to a shortage in local Arab manpower and the increase of Asians who are considered very cheap compared to Arabs. We should expect the increase of Asians in future and reduction of Arabs, Mukhsis said.

**Priority**  
The assistant undersecretary at Ministry of Social Affairs and Labour for labour affairs Mohammed Shabnan Al Thamer said in press statement that the labour law in the private sector will give priority to the employment of national manpower over then to expatriates living in Kuwait in order to limit the import of more manpower. He added that dependence on Asians is referred to the fact that they returned home after the end of their contracts which means that they stay in Kuwait for limited periods. He added that the importance of these workers is diminishing due to the latest economic situations in the country. He added that the future plan of the ministry will evolve around the Five Year Plan. The ministry will work to achieve a balance between Kuwaitis and non-Kuwaitis. It will also focus on developing national manpower and reducing expatriate manpower specially non-skilled workers, by using the latest technology, he said.

**Workers**  
A report issued by the Ministry of Social Affairs in 1985 showed that expatriate workers in 1,020 jobs and professions.

— Engineers: There were 2,562 (235 Arabs, 1,555 Asians, 641 Europeans and 118 Americans).

— Quantity Surveyors: 81: 3 Arabs, 26 Asians, and 52 Europeans.

— Vets and pharmacists: All of them were Arabs.

— Chartered accountants: 204 Arabs, 179 Asians, and 277 Europeans.

— Lawyers: 42 Arabs, 2 Asians and 5 Europeans.

— Teachers: 125 Arabs, 16 Asians and 129 Europeans.

The report pointed out that there were 385 clerical supervisors: 62 Arabs, 229 Asians and 80 Europeans. There were also 1427 clerks: 545 Arabs, 735 Asians and 120 Europeans.

— Vendors: 150 Arabs, 166 Asians and 75 Europeans.

— Service workers: 335 Arabs and 3645 Asians.

— Drivers, craftsmen, and normal laborers: 30,284 only 10 per cent were Arabs and 85 per cent Asians.

**Exploitation**  
Local cleaning companies give an average of KD 30 a month to its workers. They also fail to abide by conditions and terms of contract signed between them and municipality because of low prices they quoted to obtain tenders. The cleaning services were suspended because companies could not pay wages to their workers who refused to continue working. Some owners of companies accused other cleaning companies of working under this cover to trade in work permits and get commissions from agents who import Asians. These companies used to change workers from time to time in order to get more commissions from imported workers. The cleaning companies exploit most of their workers because they are very simple and poor. The moral standards of owners of some of those companies, are such that they evidence no remorse when they pay low wages to their workers or even when they stop paying them for several months, the daily said.

**Nurses**  
He said that the embassy would often hand over run-away maids back to their sponsors and the embassy co-operated fully in this respect with the police. Abdullah Hussein, a Kuwaiti employee, said that Asian maids are a necessity in the home, despite the countless problems associated with them. Maids are becoming more and more indispensable, and housewives are growing more heavily dependent on house-help to get through all house work and look after the children.

He said that the good housewife is able to distribute housework between her and the maid and that dependence on the maid is not intended to give the housewife the spare time to honour her so-called social obligations. The director of the Nursing

Sri Lankan maids died and considered by the court as having committed suicide, and the body was sent back to her family.

The authorities in Sri Lanka, however, discovered upon examination of the body that the maid had a number of knife-stabs on her body, and failed to dig up evidence of suicide.

A report was prepared on the case which was sent by the Sri Lankan prosecution to the embassy here which was referred to the prosecution in Kuwait but no reply has been received yet.

He said that some sponsors would not deliver the personal property of their dead maid to the embassy for dispatch to her family and others fail to give their maids their due salaries on a regular basis, which more often than not would require intervention by the embassy to sort out disputes emanating from such inconveniences.

**Housework**  
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Asian maids ... an exploited lot.

Saud Rukhsa pointed out that Asians are considered a big danger to Kuwaiti society because of different values and traditions. He added that he prefers to employ Arab trained manpower but there are many obstacles hindering achieving this aim that are put by Arab states.

He added that local companies have no choice except using Asians despite their problem. He added that there is no solution except reaching an agreement and a clear policy for wages of Arab workers that is accepted by these companies. The Asians are considered detrimental to the national economy because they save their wages and do not buy from local markets. Most of their wages are transferred to their countries which cause crisis of liquidity in the country. They also have social and cultural effects on society specially if they stay for many years in the country.

He added that he supported proposals to use Arab manpower but according to certain restriction. He added that there are 1900 workers in his company and only 400 of them are Arabs and added that most of contracting companies import non-trained Asian workers to carry out their projects.

**Maids**  
The phenomenon of growing dependence on hired Asian house-help by an increasing number of housewives is not a less serious problem than that of the labour inflation in the construction, cleaning and nursing public services.

Officials at the Sri Lankan embassy have said that they face many problems involving Sri Lankan maids and sponsors and that these problems are often the result of disputes which at times have to be referred to the police.

An employee at the embassy said that in certain cases maids die of different causes and the embassy is notified after the lapse of a long time, where the causes are often cited as suicide.

He said that in 1986 one of the

## Significant improvement in bad debts programme

THE first quarter of the year witnessed the implementation of several recommendations contained in the joint economic committee's report which was endorsed by the Cabinet in December 1989. The recommendations were aimed at reactivating the national economic movement, a monthly monetary bulletin of Kuwait Central Bank reported.

It added that the second quarter had witnessed significant improvement towards the implementation of the bad debts programme, particularly the aspect relating to the handling of the debts valued at less than KD250,000.

Speaking of the monetary development during the month of April, 1990, the bulletin said that the total budget of local banks amounted to about KD12.2 billion with a slight retreat of about 0.1 per cent vis-a-vis the previous month and with an increase of KD583 compared to the same month last year with an annual growth rate estimated at 15 per cent. The bulletin attributed the slight retreat in the total budget of the local banks to the reduction of assets and foreign liabilities.

Meanwhile, the bulletin has monitored the remarkable increase in the private sector deposits, which amounted to KD62 million with an increase of 1.3 per cent during the same period last year. It added that the credit facilities which had been extended to citizens and expatriates amounted to KD39 million indicating 0.7 per cent increase compared to same month of last year.

Speaking of treasury bills, the bulletin said that the Central Bank had floated eight issues during the month of April which amounted to KD395 million. The total amount of treasury bills and notes floated so far are valued at KD1,930 million.

## Unification of scholarships under study

THE director of scholarship department at the Ministry of Higher Education, Abdullah Al Samir said that the draft regulation unifying the scholarship system for instructors at both Kuwait University and Public Authority for Applied Education and Training (Paaet) is currently under study and is expected to be endorsed by the beginning of the next academic year.

In an interview with a local daily, the official disclosed that the Civil Service Commission had recently suspended extending overseas scholarships for studies.

He added that the names of students admitted to scholarships abroad will be announced today.

## Saudi message

ISLAMABAD, July 17, (Kuna): Saudi Ambassador in Pakistan Yusuf Muttabaqani today delivered a message from King Fahd to President Ghulam Ishaq, an official statement said.

It said the message contained Saudi monarch's condolences, sympathy and prayers for the Pakistani victims of Al Musim tunnel stampede, during haj in which over 1,400 pilgrims including 25 Pakistanis were killed and an equal number injured.

## Financed haj

KUWAIT Zakat House financed the pilgrimage of 11 persons this season. Four Kuwaiti pilgrim caravans donated 11 seats to needy pilgrims eager to perform haj. Zakat House covers the pocket money of these pilgrims beside costs of sacrifice. Zakat House has been sending pilgrims for the last four seasons.

## Three injured

A MAN was killed and three persons were injured in a collision reported at Ahmadi governorate yesterday. The police reported 10 road accidents yesterday one in the Capital, one in Hawalli, 7 in Ahmadi and one Jahra.



Iraqi envoy received

The director-general of Civil Aviation General Directorate Sheikh Jaber Mubarak Al Abdulla received in his office the Iraqi Ambassador to Kuwait Assem Yacoub Al Jaafari. They discussed bilateral relations and the development of air transportation between Kuwait and Iraq.

## From the courts

## Jail, fine for traffic forgery

THE Criminal Court sentenced two men to two and a half years imprisonment with hard labour followed by deportation and one of the convicts was ordered by the court to pay a KD100 fine.

The two were charged with forgery and falsification of official documents belonging to the General Traffic Department. The victim reported that he made an advance payment with the intention of buying a car from the first convict. But the first convict forged his signature on a document and sold the car to the second convict who was able to transfer the vehicle to his ownership at the General Traffic Department, Vehicle Registration, via a friend he knew there.

The victim complained to the police station which after investigation found that vehicle ownership documents were forged by both convicts.

**Lady tampers with passport:** The General Prosecution is currently investigating a Kuwaiti lady identified as A.M.M. who is alleged to have illegally altered some details on her passport.

On discovering the alterations, the passport was sent to the Criminal Evidence Department which has attested to the forgery.

The accused has been remanded to custody, to complete the investigation.

**Compensation appeal turned down:** The Court ruled against an employee who filed for compensation to be paid to him for wrongful dismissal.

The Court was told that the employee had violated the terms of his contract which stipulated that he would not work for any other employer.

The plaintiff, the court was further told, had applied for privilege leave, but continued to stay and work for a competitive firm where he was seen by one of the employees of the company.

Based on this testimony and verification, the court turned down the applicant's plea.

**Acid thrower picked up:** The Criminal Court has sentenced a 17-year old juvenile to one year in jail and his accomplice to six months only, for conspiring to perpetrate their crime against the young divorcee of the first suspect's father.

The court heard that both crossed the border from a neighbouring Arab country to carry out a blind vendetta against the young divorcee of the first defendant's father, and the search began for the house where the victim stayed with her stepfather

and mother. After a period of painstaking search, the defendant managed to locate the house of his victim, and knocked at the door posing as a boy working for a boutique owner whom the victim owed some money. The intended victim, however, failed to appear at the door.

After a series of attempts, the victim's sister opened up with a baby in her hands, and because her voice bore a great resemblance to that of her sister, he thought it was his long-lost target and rashly threw acid on her face and bosom which also splashed on the baby's face and body.

He immediately jumped into his waiting accomplice's car amidst cries and wails of the victim. The defendant attempted to escape, but was soon picked up by the local police force before they managed to cross the border back home.

**Sexual assault charge dropped:** The Criminal Court released two men of the charge of sexually assaulting a 14-year-old girl.

The incident occurred at 4:00 am when the girl's brother who was awake watching video films noticed a vehicle outside his house with two men and his sister coming out of the car. The girl told the police station that the man living in the next house had invited her to his father's diwan. She added that when she arrived at the diwan, another man was waiting. She said then that the two men raped her and then gave her a ride back to her house.

After the court ordered medical tests on the girl, it was found that the girl was perfectly OK and there were no traces of rape. The court therefore, ordered the release of both accused.

**Deliberate injury charge dropped:** A project engineer was acquitted of the charge of deliberately breaking a girl's leg.

The father of the girl complained to the police station that his daughter had broken her leg after falling down on some concrete blocks. He added that a water connections company had completed a project near his house and did not remove the concrete afterward.

The father told the court that the project engineer should be held responsible. The court decided to acquit the engineer of the charges after inspecting the project location and finding out that concrete blocks left by the contractor were necessary to prevent vehicles from driving over some water pipes the company had installed for water connection purposes.

## CSC meeting

THE Civil Service Council held a meeting presided by Kuwait's Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs, Dr Abdul Rahman Al Awadi, a local daily reported.

The meeting was held at the premises of the cabinet and discussed existing overlapping of functions among the state's ministries and institutions; proposals related to the report prepared by the Civil Service Commission on the administrative modernisation and development process and issues related to employment on the state level in addition to several other topics.

## Habshi resigns

A MEMBER of the National Council Mishal Abdul Latif Al Habshi has submitted his resignation from NC due to his age. The member who was nominated by Amiri Decree submitted his resignation when he realised that his age is 29 years and 6 months only. Members of the NC have to be over 30 years old. An Amiri Decree is expected to be issued naming a substitute member.

## People fear providing assistance to injured

SAVING a human life is a very respectable act. An individual who takes an injured person to the nearest hospital deserves a lot honouring and respect. Unfortunately, many individuals fear and even resist thinking of giving an injured person assistance.

A number of individuals interviewed by a local daily said that they have their reasons for not being able to provide assistance to an injured person. One of the citizens said that he was put into jail for three days after transferring an injured female on the Gulf Road to the hospital.

He added that he was kept in jail until the female became fully conscious. The same man wondered what would have been his destiny if the female had died.

Abdul Salam Al Obli, working as a teacher said that there are many reasons why people fear assisting others particularly those injured in traffic accidents.

He added that one of the main reasons is that people providing assistance in traffic accidents are subjected to thorough questioning by the police which delays his other affairs. He pointed out that it is important that a person who provides assistance to others in need should have enough witnesses.

Riyadh Al Sbarkh working in the private sector proposes further awareness for official authorities and citizens. He said that a huge number of victims end up bleeding to death in the streets before finding somebody to transfer them to the nearest hospital. He pointed out that the main reason was fear of responsibility, and being subject to questioning by police.

He called upon officials to exert more efforts into spreading awareness among people in addition to teaching citizens on how to use rescue methods in case of

accident without accepting responsibility.

Mohammed Metiab, an employee at the Ministry of Interior said that he is willing to transfer an injured person from the place of the accident to the hospital in case he was able to carry him and secondly if there were any witnesses surrounding the accident.

He said that in case he encounters an injured person in the road alone, he would rather call ambulance services and give them the exact address.

Faisal Abdul Hadi an employee at the national petrol company said that he will not provide assistance to any injured persons due to fear of questioning by police.

He pointed out that officials should deal with such matters with more flexibility. He added that it is only normal that officials should ask an individual how and when and where.

قضايا المجتمع

# GCC states trying to trim marriage costs

## Local men taking foreign brides

BAHRAIN, July 17, (Reuters): Oil-rich Gulf Arab states are trying to curb soaring marriage costs which officials say are encouraging young men to spurn local women and marry less expensive wives from India or the Philippines.

The main problem is the dowry, the price which a Muslim groom must pay his prospective wife to guarantee her security. Officials say the rush of oil money in the region in the late 1970s fuelled materialist values which pushed Gulf dowries to unreasonable heights.

Although the heady days of the oil boom have ended, social expectations have not and many young men are forced to borrow heavily to get a local wife, they say.

Studies show that average dowries in Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Qatar and the United Arab Emirates — the wealthiest Gulf states — are now around \$50,000. Costs of a lavish wedding party, usually held at a hotel and often lasting three days, could double that amount.

In Bahrain and Oman middle class dowries range from between \$3,000 to \$40,000.

Officials say 30 years ago, a bride nor-

mally celebrated at her parents' house with female friends and relatives while men flocked to congratulate the groom separately in his home.

"There is no doubt the flood of oil money witnessed by Gulf societies in the 1970s and 1980s caused negative social habits," said Kamel Saleh Al Saleh, head of the Gulf Arab Council of Ministers for Labour and Social Affairs.

**Grants**

"This included the payment of high dowries, costly marriage parties, gifts, honeymoons and furniture — all of these practices have become hurdles for youths who wish to marry," he told Reuters.

To counter the problem most Gulf Arab states have set up special marriage funds to provide grants and soft loans to young men — provided they marry local women. Officials are increasingly worried about marriages to foreigners, usually from the Far East, because of the perceived threat to their own Islamic culture and traditions.

Working expatriates comprise more than 70 per cent of the population in Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, and the United

Arab Emirates.

The Kuwaiti government said last March it would give local newly-weds a \$3,400 dollar grant and a \$6,800 dollar soft loan.

Men married to non-Kuwaitis who want to take a Kuwaiti wife were also eligible to apply for the funds.

Islam, the religion of the Gulf, allows men to take up to four wives. Saudi Arabia and Oman have banned marriages to foreigners while Kuwait and Qatar have restricted them.

Many Gulf states have also launched a public awareness campaign to discourage high dowries and expensive weddings.

"The problem is that the value of the human being here has changed — before education and knowledge were the standard, now people are valued by money and gold," said Sabika Al Najjar, who works for the United Nations Development Programme in Bahrain.

**Problem**

"A lot of girls say if they didn't ask for a large dowry from a man he would think them cheap — and young couples think that people will respect them according to

how much they spend on wedding parties," she told Reuters.

Sheikh Sultan Bin Mohammed Al Qasbi, ruler of the UAE emirate of Sharjah, last month hosted a mass wedding party for 20 couples in a bid to draw attention to the problem.

The Sharjah Welfare Association paid all expenses and each couple got an interest-free loan of \$10,900.

"We have been trying to find a solution to the problem of dowry and immense marriage expenses but in vain," Sheikh Sultan told television crews from neighbouring Gulf states.

Some educated young couples, particularly in Bahrain, have begun to take note.

Guests attending a wedding on the island last month were horrified to learn the bride's father had registered his daughter's dowry at a mere 100 fils (26 cents).

A recently-married woman, mathematics teacher Layma Al Arrayed, said she had asked her husband Waleed only for a gold coin worth 45 dinars (\$120), and inscribed with a verse from the Quran, the Muslim holy book.

# Kashmir on agenda of OIC Cairo meeting

## Amir, Gabid hold talks

KUWAIT, July 17, (Kuna): Secretary-General of the Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC) Dr Hamid Al Gabid today said his meeting with His Highness the Amir Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad was "positive and fruitful."

He said that he consulted and discussed with His Highness the Amir Islamic issues, particularly in light of two important conferences, the first is the OIC foreign minister meeting in Cairo late this month, and the second is the OIC summit, scheduled to be held in Dakar, the Senegalese capital, late next January.

Dr Gabid told Kuwait News Agency (Kuna) that he discussed with HH the topics on agenda of the 19th conference of the OIC foreign ministers and the issues of importance to the Islamic world, particularly the conditions of the Muslim minorities in the world and preparations for the 6th OIC summit.

He further said that the OIC is following up the conditions of Muslims all over the world, including Kashmir, and said this issue would be on the agenda of the Cairo meeting.

**Achievements**

Intensive consultations are under way with the aim of unifying the Muslim ranks, Gabid said adding that the Organisation, under instructions of His Highness the Amir, who is its present chairman, is working hard to prevent armed clashes between India and Pakistan as a result of the situation in Kashmir.

He reiterated that the Organisation is going to defend the rights of Muslims, and hoped that the Cairo conference would take a unified position and to call on India "to stop aggressions on Muslims in Kashmir and to solve the problem through peaceful means."

The OIC secretary-general

highlighted the achievements realised by the Organisation during the presidency of HH the Amir and said he is going to prepare a report on these achievements before the OIC summit.

He stressed that the presidency of HH the Amir "has been very positive and has added clear vividness and effectiveness to its activities and provided success to its efforts."

He emphasised that HH the Amir had played a very positive role in solving the problem of the Turkish Muslim minority in Bulgaria and pointed out the speech delivered by His Highness at the UN General Assembly on solving the debt problem and alleviating the burden on the under-developed countries.

He went on to say that the tour made by HH to a number of African countries was positive because it activated contacts among Islamic countries.

He added that HH the Amir has personally followed up the conditions of Muslim minorities and their problems and this led to ideal solutions to a number of such problems.

Answering a question on suffering of Muslims in Liberia and Sri Lanka, Dr Gabid said the OIC has formed a committee from the Islamic Development Bank to study the needs of Liberian Muslims, particularly those who fled to Guinea following the recent development in Liberia and that the committee has started to provide them with assistance.

He said however, that he does not think that the present condition of Muslims in Liberia is due to religious reasons adding that "we have proof on that."

He explained that their condition is part of a political problem that all citizens and residents in Liberia are facing, but said the organisation is going to take care

of them after stability and tranquillity is restored to Liberia.

As for Muslims in Sri Lanka, Gabid said the OIC is following up their conditions "and we have made a statement on that issue."

**Uprising**

Speaking about the Palestinian crisis, Gabid said this issue is on the top of agenda of all Islamic conferences and referred to the support of the Palestinian uprising and the suspension of US-PLO dialogue as priority issues.

Dr Gabid called for working out new strategies on these topics with concentration on the holding of the international conference on peace in the Middle East under the auspices of the United Nations and with emphasis on the legitimate national rights of the Palestinian people.

The OIC foreign ministers are going to take care of the causes of Islamic minorities and would study the recent developments in East Europe and their impact on the Islamic world, he said.

He added that the situation in Albania, which has a majority Muslim population, is also going to be discussed and the kind of relations the OIC can maintain with that European country.

He added that the OIC would seize the opportunity of these developments and the changes there, as a result of Soviet perestroika, to rebuild relations with Islamic minorities in Eastern Europe.

He further said that the situation in Afghanistan would also be among the issues of the OIC ministerial meeting and added that the organisation is going to intensify its role on that issue.

In reply to a question, Dr Gabid admitted that "economic co-operation among OIC member states is not at the required level due to the shortage of capabilities."

## Malaysian rubber for Saudi tyres

KUALA LUMPUR, July 17, (Agencies): Saudi Arabia is likely to import natural rubber from Malaysia for its tyre manufacturing plant scheduled to open in about two years, the Saudi Minister of Industry and Electricity said on Monday.

Abdul Aziz Al Zamil added that the best tyres were made from a combination of natural and synthetic rubber. Saudi Arabia will also open a synthetic rubber production plant for the tyre plant, he said.

"However, the decision to import will be left to businessmen as the tyre plant is a private sector project," he told newsmen at the end of his two day visit to Malaysia.

Earlier, Abdul Aziz, who came here as special envoy of King Fahd, presented the Saudi monarch's letter of condolences to the Malaysian paramount ruler, the Yang Di-Pertuan Agong, over the death of 132 Malaysian pilgrims in the July 2 Al Muzaffar tunnel stampede in Mina.

The minister said Saudi Arabia had proposed to build a tyre plant to produce tyres suitable for the rugged Saudi terrain.

He said his country would also embark on a production plant to produce raw materials for the tyre project.

While here, the Saudi minister also held discussions with the Malaysian Trade and Industry Minister Rafiqah Aziz.

He said the talks centred on ways to improve the excellent economic ties between the two countries.

Abdul Aziz who was making his first visit to Malaysia, said he was impressed with the rapid economic development taking place in this country.

He said Malaysia would no doubt become a strong economic power in the future if the current pace of development continued.



Outstanding students feted

Under the patronage of the board chairman of the Kuwait Sea Club, Brigadier Fahad Ahmad Al Fahad, the socio-cultural committee at the club held a special function to honour children of club members, who scored the highest grades in the elementary, intermediate and secondary education stages.

Brigadier Fahad delivered the opening speech in which he congratulated the children on their outstanding performance and urged them to diligently persevere to set a brilliant example to their peers.

He handed out gifts to students at the end of the function which was attended by the chairman of the water sports committee chairman at the club Sheikh Khaled Ba Der Mohammed, senior club officials and a large multitude of club members and their children.



## KAC unfair to employees, says union chairman

KUWAIT Airways Corporation (KAC) pays no heed to the interests of its employees and has obliged many Kuwaiti employees to resign and join the Kuwait Aviation Services Company (KASCO) over the past eight years.

Making these statements to a local daily, the Chairman of the employees union at KAC, Rashed Al Misabbai, was commenting on KAC's statement expressing its willingness to appoint two Kuwaiti employees who had reported that they were working with KAC, but are not being paid.

The union official said that he reiterated that the problem of these employees still exists and KAC still rejects a fair solution as recommended by Kuwait's Public Institution for Social Security to compensate these employees whose salaries have been suspended by KAC.

He stressed that the level of pensions to be paid to these employees will be negatively affected. He cited the example of an engineer who had been working for KAC for a period of 20 years and was drawing a salary of KD1,500. In this case, he said that the engineer could sell 25 per cent of his salary to the Public Institution for Social Security and receive an amount of KD47,000. Meanwhile, he would be entitled to a pension of KD750 and additionally he could take up employment with the private sector and could hope to get a salary of between KD500 to 1,000 in addition to end of service gratuity which could reach up to KD10,000. Translated, he said that if the same engineer had to join KASCO, it will deprive him of simultaneously taking a pension salary and a salary from the private sector. Basically, he would lose the pension which is estimated at KD750.

He confirmed that the expected end of service gratuity which an employee will be entitled to in KASCO will range from KD5,000 to KD26,000 after 30 years of service. The loss to the employee as a result from transferring him from KAC to KASCO will range from KD70,000 to KD152,000.

## Fires on the decline

THE deputy director-general of the Fire Department, Abdul Aziz Hassan was quoted as saying that fire incidents were on the decline every year.

In an interview with a local daily, the official attributed this to heightened awareness prevailing among citizens and expatriates.

He said that the months of July to September were called the season of fire incidents in view of the high temperatures and increased electricity load.

The department will bring into service state-of-the-art boats to be used for extinguishing fires at sea, the official said and added that a new fire training school, incorporating the latest technology will be opened next year.

## Law on pre-nuptial testing recommended by doctors

HEREDITARY enlightenment prior to marriage is an ideal method to detect illnesses in either of the parties and a law should be promulgated making medical examinations mandatory for those intending marriage, head of the Hereditary Disease Centre at the Ministry of Public Health, Dr Sadeeqa Al Awadi said.

A doctor specialising in genetics has an important role in informing couples about the probability of having healthy children and recommending measures to avoid medical problems, Awadi said.

She stated that both parties have the right to ascertain whether either is suffering from any diseases which may be transmitted to children in the future. The centre is fully equipped to detect most common hereditary characteristics in couples, she disclosed.

Meanwhile, she stressed that the government has the right to ensure and prevent the spread and increase of health problems in society. She commented that such problems constitute a heavy burden on society and hinder its development plans and future projects.

She explained that hereditary guidance is the role carried out by geneticists for those interested in marriage. From a hereditary point of view there is no need for both the wife and husband to go through special examinations. Doctors may find it adequate sometimes to only study the family tree and diseases which may have occurred within. Such diseases may be hard to detect through laboratory tests.

She called upon citizens to take up hereditary guidance particularly after encountering the spread of some hereditary diseases to Kuwait.

She pointed out that one of the most common hereditary diseases in Kuwait are those connected with blood. Other forms of hereditary illnesses are linked to nutrition and some mental disability. She stated that such diseases have higher probability rates in marriages between relatives.

With respect to the spread of hereditary illnesses in Kuwait she said that blood related diseases were very common in Kuwaiti society. She called upon officials to speed up measures towards issuing a law

compelling couples to go through medical examinations prior to marriage. She added that couples are invited to come to the Hereditary Diseases Centre to go through examinations. She indicated that the law should give individuals freedom of choice after going through such examinations even though there were high probabilities of having affected children.

On the other hand, head of the family organisation section at the Ministry of Public Health, Dr Ibrahim Qashlan anticipated that the medical examination prior to marriage law will find many unsupportive opinions among people in Kuwait. He stated that many countries have already implemented such laws to prevent the increase of hereditary diseases. He stated that officials should rather put more emphasis on the importance of hereditary guidance, instead of issuing a law.

Doctor Qashlan, however, stressed on the importance of medical examinations before marriage in order to avoid diseases. He said that the Family Organisation Centre doesn't seem to witness great response on medical examinations before marriage. He stated that this was due to the low standard of health and social awareness of many citizens.

He stressed that in order to increase awareness, officials must take serious steps towards developing guidance on hereditary diseases. Medical examinations conducted on couples at the centre are easy and simple and only involve taking blood and urine samples for analysis.

Qashlan indicated that the Family Organisation Centre had only conducted tests on 659 couples last year.

The psychology consultant, Dr Marwan Al Mutawa, urged officials to issue a law compelling citizens to go through medical examinations prior to marriage. He stressed that tests should also include psychological aspects as well as physical. He indicated that 80 per cent of divorce cases in Kuwait are due to psychological factors.

He pointed out that annual statistics of divorce rates among Kuwaitis and other nationalities published by the Ministry of Justice and the Ministry of Planning indicated an increase because of abnormal children.

## Arrest juvenile pedlars: Barjes

THE governor of Hawaili Abdul Latif Al Barjes has reportedly issued instructions to the governorate police force to arrest child pedlars at traffic signals.

This instructions follow the noticeable increase in the number of such children who sell chewing gum or car suncovers at traffic lights exposing their lives to danger and hampering the easy flow of traffic.

Rawda and Adaliya police personnel, officers and recruits, have been seen monitoring traffic lights under their jurisdiction to pick up teenage hawkers hanging about in the area. The number of such children rounded up yesterday is reportedly ten.

One of the children told the police that his father would drop him at the traffic light in the morning and provide him with material to sell to drivers or passengers and come to collect him late in the evening.

## Censorship

called for an end of all media wars between the Arabs.

Sheikh Jaber singled out the official Kuwaiti media as a unifying factor among Arabs and as a tool for highlighting the positive accomplishments of Arabs wherever they are.

He added that if the national Arab media apparatus could follow the Kuwaiti media example in diplomatically solving war of words between each other they would be able to stand up to the Zionist media with confidence and strength.

The Kuwaiti minister affirmed that the aim of the media should be to focus on the bright side of the Arab world and to try to counter any hostile propaganda, which the Zionists would take advantage of and exaggerate upon.

On Kuwaiti-Iranian relations Sheikh Jaber said the two neighbouring Muslim countries share a number of joint economic, security and cultural interests, and have special historical relations of co-operation and understanding.

He expressed his content on the positive development of relations which he said received a boost during the visit of the Iranian foreign minister to Kuwait last week.

He added that the whole Gulf region is looking forward to such development in relations with Iran on the basis of "co-operation, understanding, the respect of sovereignty and non-interference in the internal affairs of any country."

## National Council to meet on Saturday

By Lima Al Khalafawi Arab Times staff

YESTERDAY, the National Council submitted its by-laws to the Cabinet for approval. These by-laws will become effective after they have been approved by HH the Amir. The text will then be published in the official gazette.

The council envisages holding its next meeting on Saturday to elect respective members to the 11 distinct committees.

During the council's short meeting yesterday, which was presided by the speaker Abdul Aziz Al Musaeid, the bill was approved by a majority of 66 votes, four against and five absentees.

At the same meeting members discussed some articles and submitted written proposals to the secretariat general. A debate ensued during the meeting when member Khalifa Al Khorafi opposed the inclusion of the appointed five members (also

ministers) in the first committee for reviewing the past parliamentary experience. Khorafi said that members of the first committee should be the elected members and not appointees.

The Minister of Interior, Sheikh Salem Sahah Al Salem, replied that appointed members enjoy the same rights as those elected according to the Amir's decree.

Sheikh Salem said that first committee should comprise those who have been elected, ministers, and other members who have been appointed.

Meanwhile, two other members, Saoud Al Otaibi and Abdul Kareem Al Jhalidi reaffirmed that both elected and appointed members enjoy the same rights.

At the same meeting the council agreed to change the name of the Security Affairs Committee to be the Internal Security and Defence Committee.

Weather	
TEMPERATURE	will remain above normal with light to moderate north westerly wind.
State of sea	Slight
High water	7.00 am, 10.00 pm
Low water	12.00 noon, 1.00 am
Sunrise	5.00 am
Sunset	6.48 pm
Maximum temperature recorded:	Kuwait: 49°C 120°F
	Ahmad: 46°C 115°F
	Falaka: 47°C 117°F
Minimum temperature expected:	Kuwait: 49°C 120°F
	Ahmad: 46°C 115°F
	Falaka: 47°C 117°F
Maximum temperature recorded:	Kuwait: 38°C 100°F
	Falaka: 38°C 100°F
Minimum humidity recorded:	Kuwait: 17 per cent
	Ahmad: 43 per cent
	Falaka: 31 per cent

## EDITORIALS

## ARAB TIMES

Thought for today

MONEY is like a sixth sense without which you cannot make a complete use of the other five — W. Somerset Maugham, English writer (1874-1965).

## Mideast peace chances bleak

## US-PLO talks off

TUNIS, (Reuters): Prospects for reviving dialogue between Washington and the PLO, widely seen as essential for progress towards Middle East peace, look bleaker than ever now both sides have dug in behind incompatible positions, diplomats say.

Egypt, Sweden and Britain have been trying to bring the two sides together again but have run into a brick wall, they say.

"There's no easy way out... we can't see any results from the mediation," said a well-placed Tunis-based diplomat.

US President George Bush reluctantly broke off the dialogue on June 20 because the Palestine Liberation Organisation refused to condemn a Palestinian commando raid on Israel in May and discipline the commando group which carried it out.

**Accept**  
PLO chairman Yasser Arafat told Arab foreign ministers in Tunis on Sunday the PLO would never accept US conditions. "We do not accept conditions and orders being imposed on us. We are a legitimate liberation organisation which the international community believes in and supports," he said.

Moderate PLO leaders tried to avert the US decision by promising an internal inquiry into the May 30 raid by the small Palestine Liberation Front of Mohammed Abbas, a PLO off-shoot.

They said the inquiry, if it proved the raid was aimed at civilians, could lead to disciplinary action against Abbas by the Palestinian National Council, the Palestinian Parliament-in-exile and the movement's highest authority.

But the same moderate leaders now say that Washington, by setting conditions publicly, has made it impossible for Arafat to meet the US without alienating many ordinary Palestinians.

**Support**

"The more you (the West) push us, the less likely we are to respond," a leader member of Arafat's Fatah group told Reuters.

There is widespread support among Palestinians for military operations against Israel in response to the almost-daily killing of Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

The PLO, backed by Arab states, has now made new demands on the dialogue. Arab ministers said on Monday it should resume "on new foundations" and deal with "the essential issues."

The PLO complained throughout the 18-month dialogue that the United States was only interested in procedural matters and was using the talks to limit the PLO's freedom of manoeuvre.

An adviser to Arafat told Reuters a formula for reviving the talks might be possible if the PLO had assurances that the content of the dialogue would change in the PLO's favour.

But the diplomats said they saw no chance that Washington would back down on its conditions and noted that it took 15 years for the PLO to match the terms that former US Secretary of State Henry Kissinger set for the dialogue to begin.

Arafat met those conditions at a Geneva news conference in December 1988, when he renounced terrorism and recognised Israel's right to exist.

## Suspensions

On the Palestinian side, the dialogue affair has reinforced suspicions that the United States is hostile to Israeli policy.

Arafat told the Arab ministers on Sunday that Washington had used the May commando raid as a pretext to make it easier for Israel to absorb hundreds of thousands of Soviet Jews and settle them against the interest of the Palestinian people.

Western diplomats said Bush's motive was to preempt measures in the US Congress which would have tied his hands in the Middle East peace process.

Egypt has also suffered from Palestinian sensitivities. PLO executive committee member Suheim Nujab said this week that Cairo, in its mediation efforts, had joined the United States in trying to force the PLO to accept the US conditions.

PLO officials said the only opening in sight was that Washington, faced with an intransigent Israeli government, might abandon attempts to arrange Israeli-Palestinian talks and go back to the United Nations.

But European diplomats said it would be a retrograde step if the United States took the Israeli view that the conflict was with the Arab states and not with the Palestinians.

## TODAY IN HISTORY

- 64 — Great Fire of Rome begins, and legend is that Emperor Nero set the blaze and played his fiddle as Rome burned.
- 1496 — England nominally joins Holy League against France.
- 1536 — Authority of Pope is declared void in England.
- 1658 — Leopold I is elected Holy Roman emperor.
- 1792 — France declares war in Sardinia.
- 1812 — Britain, by Treaty of Orebro, joins Sweden and Russia against France.
- 1872 — Britain introduces voting by secret ballot.
- 1912 — Tewfik Pasha becomes grand vizier of Persia following fall of Said Pasha's ministry.
- 1923 — British matrimonial causes act gives women equality in divorce suits.
- 1925 — Druzes begin insurrection in Syria.
- 1962 — Peru government is overthrown by military leaders, and United States halts military aid to that country.
- 1966 — South Africa declares it will continue control of South-West Africa after World Court dismisses suit brought by black-ruled African states.
- 1972 — Egyptian government orders Soviet Union to withdraw military advisers stationed in Egypt.
- 1974 — Archbishop Makarios, ousted president of Cyprus, arrives in New York to seek support at United Nations.
- 1988 — Iran announces acceptance of United Nations resolution for ceasefire in Gulf war with Iraq.



Troops on their way to quell ethnic uprising in Kosovo province. (Reuters wirephoto)

## Presidency head suggests referendum

## Unity eludes Yugoslav states

BELGRADE, Yugoslavia, (AP): While much of Europe is on the threshold of unification, Yugoslavia's deeply divided states cannot agree on how to remain together. The growing splits have brought the troubled Balkan country to the brink of disintegration.

Borisav Jovic, the Serbian now heading the country's collective presidency, has suggested a referendum to determine whether individual nationalities want to remain united in one ethnically diverse country. But no date has been set.

Some politicians maintain that Yugoslavia has already fallen apart.

Yugoslavia no longer exists," asserted Dimitrij Rupel, foreign minister of Slovenia, the northern republic leading the rebellion against Yugoslavia.

The country was formed 70 years ago as a joint

kingdom of Serbs, Croats and Slovenes in the aftermath of World War I.

After being occupied and dismembered by the Germans in 1941, it re-emerged as a communist-style federation of six "peoples' republics" with Macedonia, Montenegro and Bosnia-Herzegovina added to the three pre-war states under Yugoslavia's communist founder Josip Broz Tito.

During the cold war, Tito's nationalist policies were useful to the West, which provided significant financial and other support to nonaligned Yugoslavia as a check on Soviet influence in the sensitive Balkans.

This in turn helped Tito impose unity and the rule of a Communist Party that ostensibly rose above Yugoslavia's traditional ethnic rivalries.

But traditional ethnic and regional rivalries began

to bubble after Tito's death in 1980. And the message of greater democracy and human rights that spurred last year's revolutions in Eastern Europe also worked against the old-style centralised rule from Belgrade.

On July 2, Slovenia proclaimed its full sovereignty, establishing an independent legal system and asserting the right to control all armed forces stationed on its territory.

On the same day, ethnic Albanian deputies of the volatile southern province of Kosovo announced plans to secede from Serbia.

Croatia, the second-largest republic, has already demanded radical reshaping of the federal system bequeathed by Tito. President Franjo Tudjman's centre-right party won a landslide victory in the republic's free elections this spring.

## Letters to the Editor

In a special supplement, the Arab Times published, on occasion of the visit of the prime minister of Pakistan to Kuwait last week, an article on 'Kashmir,' based on materials provided by the Pakistani embassy in Kuwait.

Today we publish another viewpoint supplied by the Indian embassy in Kuwait.

## Kashmir issue

SIR: It is essential to trace the circumstances under which India achieved independence in 1947 from the British rule in order to appreciate the genesis of the Kashmir issue. Before 1947, the undivided India was a British colony. From a legal or constitutional angle it consisted of two parts: the British India which was directly ruled by the British authorities and the 'Princely' India comprising over 500 states which were practically sovereign but, under the doctrine of paramountcy, were subject to British control in the fields of foreign affairs, foreign trade and defence.

As the British empire in the undivided India folded up in 1947, the legal position that emerged was that the British India stood partitioned into India and Pakistan and as far as the 'Princely' India was concerned the doctrine of paramountcy ceased resulting in the over five hundred states becoming fully sovereign. These states were expected to decide through their lawful rulers either to join India or Pakistan or stay independent. This arrangement was duly embodied in the Indian Independence Act of 1947 as enacted by the British Parliament. Under this very arrangement, hundreds of princely states decided to join India by their rulers signing Instruments of Accession. The ruler of Jammu and Kashmir also duly signed a similar Instrument of Accession on Oct. 26, 1947 and consequently state of Jammu and Kashmir became an integral part of India. This legal position has never been, nor, indeed, can be, questioned by any one.

## Commitment

It was the commitment of the Indian leaders to democratic principles in the governance of their country that inspired India to adopt a republican and democratic constitution. For the last four decades India's unbroken bond with democratic way of life has justified abiding faith of the founding leaders of free India in democratic values. It was this very commitment that made India's leaders declare in 1947 that the legal accession to India by the state of Jammu and Kashmir would be reconfirmed by ascertaining the wishes of the people of that state. It was also for this reason that the government of India willingly accepted the principle of plebiscite to be held in the state of Jammu and Kashmir under the UN auspices. Let us now see what happened to these UN resolutions.

In October 1947, Pakistan initiated attack on the state of Jammu and Kashmir by sending tribal raiders from across the border. They were later on joined by regular troops of Pakistan. This amounted to blatant aggression against India. That aggression still continues in almost one third of the state of Jammu and Kashmir which is still under the illegal control of Pakistan. It was as a complainant against this Pakistani act of aggression against an integral part of its territory that India approached the United Nations. The resolutions adopted by the United Nations Commission for India and Pakistan (UNCIP) set up in this regard sought to have Pakistani tribal and forces leave Jammu and Kashmir, restore Indian administrative control over the entire area and then arrange to have a plebiscite in order to ascertain the people's will regarding accession of the state of Jammu and Kashmir.

Part II-A of the UNCIP resolution of Aug 13, 1948 refers to Pakistan's agreement to withdraw its troops from Jammu and Kashmir. Part II-B of the resolution lays down the modality for the total withdrawal of Pakistani forces from Jammu and Kashmir. A subsequent resolution adopted on Jan 5, 1949 called for a plebiscite subject to the completion of the ceasefire and truce agreements (of Part I and II of Aug 13, 1948 resolutions). Since Pakistan did not fulfil its obligations, failed to abide by the spirit and substance of the resolution and declined to vacate the part of Kashmir it had occupied by dint of force and aggression, the plebiscite could not be held.

It is unfair to blame India for not holding plebiscite in Kashmir because of default on the

part of Pakistan. India waited for years but Pakistan did not vacate that area thus effectively frustrating the holding of the desired plebiscite. In the meantime, the basic purpose behind the United Nations resolutions was fulfilled by adoption of a constitution of Jammu and Kashmir by a freely elected Constituent Assembly in 1956. This process was further reinforced by numerous elections not only to State Assembly but also to the Union Parliament of the country through which the people of the state of Jammu and Kashmir have repeatedly exercised their democratic choice.

## Purpose

Not only the purpose behind the UN resolutions had been fulfilled but also with the passage of time relevance of these resolutions was fast coming to an end. The changing political, economic and strategic factors surrounding the whole of Kashmir question together with the changing pattern of power relations in West and South Asia could not be ignored. No wonder the last time the UN Security Council passed a resolution on Kashmir was as far back as 1957. In any case, by thrusting two wars on India in 1965 and 1971, Pakistan changed the entire context of two countries' bilateral relations and arrangements.

The Simla Agreement, since 1972, became the basic framework for the conduct of bilateral relations between India and Pakistan. When the two states willingly and consciously entered into this solemn agreement, constituting a bilateral treaty, in full awareness of the previous arrangements, there was no doubt that the commitments undertaken under this bilateral treaty, superseded all previous arrangements.

Of course, the Simla Agreement refers to principles of UN Charters. However, it must be noted that the charter and the UN resolutions of 1948 and 1949 on Kashmir are totally different. The charter lays down norms and principles of international dealings, while the two resolutions deal with the specific situations in specific circumstances. They express provision of the Simla Agreement "that the two sides are resolved to settle their differences by peaceful means through bilateral means or by any other peaceful means mutually agreed upon them" — this clearly supersedes the United Nations resolutions when it comes to the question of the "final settlement" of Jammu and Kashmir.

It is absolutely untenable to compare the situation in Kashmir with the Palestine question. The two bear no similarity to each other. The historical backgrounds and the issues involved are totally different. Even the President of the State of Palestine, Yasser Arafat mentioned in his conversation with the media persons in India in March 1990 that "the Simla Agreement should be the basis for settling bilateral disputes with India and that the Simla Agreement has withstood the test of time and is a good framework for sorting out the problems between the two countries." Arafat also said that "Kashmir is a part of India and if there is any problem between India and Pakistan on this issue, it should be solved across the table between the two countries." He also affirmed that he did not support taking bilateral problems to the international fora.

Abdul Khalique,  
Indian embassy,  
First Secretary (Inf.),  
Kuwait.

## Italia '90

SIR: If the word "luck" means nothing Brazil would have been the undisputed champions of the world in the last two World Cup tournaments in Spain and Mexico, they had all the requirements then to win the championships perfectly. Something has happened during this tournament as well and only those teams having better luck reached the ladder including Argentina who otherwise lost all the rights to go further after losing the inaugural match with Cameroon. Moreover, in the final against West

Germany, Argentina even lost all the moral rights to win the cup when they entered the field with the intention of playing negative football, playing only to defend throughout and try to win it in the penalty shootout. Such a team does not deserve to win the Cup.

Being one of the lousy tournaments, the final between W. Germany and Argentina also turned out to be a lousy affair and a lacklustre encounter between the first and the second best teams in the world. No doubt, the Germans played well throughout the tournament and won the Cup for which they deserve congratulations but their performance in the final was of poor quality. Argentina being in the disadvantageous position due to the suspension of their 3 starwars plus a halfwit Maradona, Germany should have scored at least half a dozen goals. But no, instead they had to be content with a gift of a questionable penalty given by the nervous-looking Mexican referee who possessed no excellent past record in officiating in a big match.

Not only did Maradona's presence but even his shadow was enough to keep two opponents constantly busy to stop him by fair or unfair means and he was the most fouled man in the tournament. If the Mexican referee had to show one more card to the non-playing member of the Argentinean team Batista and the ones who elbowed and pushed him, there would have been a riot there. Thanks to the diplomatic precaution taken by the referee.

In fact, it is a great weakness of South American teams to play their tempers on the field. And who can forget the ugly incident created by Argentine skipper Ratin in the '66 World Cup. And lately in 1982 by Maradona himself?

## Opinion

Everyone was of the opinion that Brazil would lift the Cup, but no, they did not live up to the expectation and their tradition. First of all Brazil cannot win the Cup with Olympians without much experience and maturity of the senior side. Secondly, by discarding their own brand of traditional football they cannot beat the Europeans by deploying European tactics. By doing this, Brazil has traded their own style of play for which in the last two World Cup tournaments they gained a strong goodwill of the spectators all over the world. People nowadays want more entertainment than victories and because Brazilians entertained they became the darlings of the world.

The team that I admired the most was Cameroon and their encounter with England paralleled with true Brazilian style of play. Their ageing veteran Roger Milla should have been crowned as the man of the tournament.

The third place match between England and Italy will go down in the history of soccer as one of the best encounter because it was played in a very good friendly atmosphere. Both the teams displayed, a perfect sense of sportsmanship by accepting and enjoying their respective loss and victory. Peter Shilton, the skipper of England being the oldest player in the tournament showed perfect sense of anticipation and reflexes but found wanting in agility because of which he failed to tap at least two penalties against Germany.

Among the debutants all but UAE fared well. In six months UAE changed 3 coaches/managers and sacking of Mario Zagallo at the crucial time on financial matters proved to be a real set-back. Overall rating of African and Asian teams was good that merits one more spot for each of the continents. This can be easily done by making the British to field only one team in the name of Great Britain instead of allowing Scotland, Ireland and Wales to participate separately. Since this is the tournament of the nations, one nation must field only one team.

The worst part of this tournament was the hooliganism and rowdism displayed by the Germans and British fans in a foreign country. By this act, they have shown the disrespect for the laws and norms of the host country. The \$4.4 billion investment by the Italian government into this tournament proved to be a worthy investment.

A. Veronica Fernandes,  
Safat.

ALL Letters to the Editor must contain the writer's name and address. Publication is at the discretion of the Editor and letters are subject to the editing process for space or other reasons.

## China

## Forces torn between role

BEIJING, (UPI): More than a year after the military crackdown on the democracy movement, the Chinese Army remains torn between conflicting moves to reassert its role in politics on the one hand and professionalise on the other.

According to Chinese with military contacts and Beijing-based foreign analysts, younger career officers are quietly resentful of stepped-up political indoctrination at the expense of training and are dissatisfied with the current line of command.

Dissent over a recent reshuffle of China's regional military commanders and political commissars also reportedly has undermined morale in the 3.5 million-member people's Liberation Army, which encompasses all services.

As the PLA prepares to mark its 63rd anniversary Aug 1, ambitious academy-trained officers will have little cause for celebration.

In a sharp reversal from previous efforts to professionalise China's military, some units now are spending more than 60 per cent of their time undergoing "political education."

## Training

"Military training has gone out the window," said a Western defense attaché, who pointed to a split between younger, better-educated officers and aging veteran generals who rallied behind senior leader Deng Xiaoping during last June's crackdown.

"What we're getting is a backlash against the political diatribe," the diplomat said. "The old generals are happy to go back to the days of Maoist idealism, but the younger officers aren't. What's in it for them?"

Academy-trained officers will likely resent a recent order by the Communist Party's Central Military Commission, which has actual control over the army, to promote "superior" lower-ranking soldiers to officer rank despite their lack of education.

A CMC circular carried in the April 14 issue of the Liberation Army daily, the PLA newspaper, said military academies were unable to train enough officers and that "political qualifications were of the utmost importance" in promoting soldiers to officer status.

The new order was followed by an editorial in the PLA daily stressing the by-now familiar refrain that "the rifles must remain in the hands of the (Communist) Party," an echo of Mao Tse-tung's famous dictum that political power comes from the barrel of a gun.

Behind the rhetoric lie genuine fears over sympathy among some quarters of the PLA with last year's ill-fated democracy movement.

Before the sensitive first anniversary of the June 4, 1989, crackdown of democracy protesters in Beijing, the army issued a list of "10 prohibitions" forbidding soldiers to participate in or show support for student movements. Soldiers and police, some in uniform, took part in last year's student-led protests.

## Indoctrination

Re-emphasis on political indoctrination in the wake of the crackdown is a setback for the army, which in recent years had moved away from its early role as Mao's worker-peasant communist vanguard to a more technical proficiency and education. Indoctrination, too, has been the crackdown: the army has more pressing worries. Demobilisation of 1 million troops in recent years has not gone smoothly, leaving many soldiers untrained and unemployed.

The PLA's drive to acquire modern technology and weapons from the West was also dealt a external blow by Western and Japanese sanctions imposed after the Chinese military's armed assault on peaceful protesters.

This year's 15.2 per cent budget increase for the military appears to have been spent largely on pay raises rather than on replacing the army's outdated equipment, according to Western diplomats who follow military affairs.

But the PLA is plagued by more threatening dilemmas than creaky 1940s trucks and an antiquated air force. Chinese military sources privately speak of sagging army morale and a dangerously fractious, unstable leadership.

The chief focus of dissent is President Yang Shangkun, a tough 83-year-old veteran general who wields day-to-day control over the military despite his second billing as deputy chairman of the Party Military Commission.

Yang, a Long March veteran and Deng ery, also is on the party's ruling six-man Politburo standing committee and is viewed as Deng's likely successor. But Yang's revolutionary prestige is marred by simmering resentment over his role in last year's crackdown, coupled with charges of nepotism.

Yang's younger brother, Yang Baibing, is PLA political commissar and the force behind the recent revival of an outdated Maoist campaign to "Learn from Lei Feng," a model soldier lauded during the early 1960s for his selfless communist spirit. The myth has been discredited and is generally derided by Chinese.

## Campaign

The latest campaign, which sent soldiers into the streets to perform services ranging from caring for the sick to giving haircuts, petered out after a few weeks. It was greeted with particular contempt in Beijing, where bitterness toward the army still runs high.

A quiet undercurrent of dissent over the violent banding of last spring's protests runs through the military as well, according to a PLA source who requested anonymity. The source said younger officers are "waiting for an opportunity for change," but stopped short of predicting a coup.

Even several recently promoted senior officers regarded as loyal members of the "Yang family clique" can't be trusted to back up their patron should a power struggle erupt at the top levels, the source said.

"They listen to him, but that doesn't necessarily mean they're loyal to him in their hearts," he said, denying rumours that a recent reshuffle of six of China's seven military regional commanders signalled a sure consolidation of power for the Yangs. Although some of the new appointments appear to be routine, others are seen as rewards for good performances during the crackdown. The new commander of the Beijing region, Zhang Gong, was promoted over other more senior officers for his exemplary performance as last year's martial law spokesman.

The significance of the latest round of promotions is clouded by the fact that all high-ranking military promotions are controlled by the PLA's political department, leaving ample room for the Yangs to manipulate the system.

The reshuffle also resulted in a number of controversial demotions. Zong Shunliu, a lieutenant general and former deputy director of the PLA General Logistics Department, was kicked down three ranks and packed off to Northern Liaoning province, according to an official source.

قراحت الاصل

# BUSINESS & FINANCE

## Debt-ridden Egypt faces critical choices on economy

CAIRO, July 17, (Reuters): Debt-straddled Egypt faces critical decisions in the next few months on how to tackle its worsening finances.

Foreign debt is around \$30 billion, the budget deficit is at least eight per cent of gross domestic product and banks have refused to lend the government new funds.

To add to its woes Egypt faces a cut-off of aid from its most important donors — the United

States and France.

"We've been hearing for 20 years that Egypt had reached the end of its rope, but something always came along to save it," said an Egyptian economist.

"This time I can't see anything coming along." Egypt has turned to the International Monetary Fund (IMF), though for more than two years Cairo has been resisting the implementation of its bitter austerity medicine for fear of social unrest, like that

of the late '70s when riots erupted after food subsidies were briefly removed.

Western economists say the crunch could come in the next few months when Egypt must make a series of heavy payments on its military and economic debt to the United States or risk being cut off from \$2.3 billion a year in US aid.

Under the US Brook amendment fresh aid is suspended to countries more than a year behind on

debt repayments.

In September, Egypt must pay more than \$140 million for an instalment that came due a year ago, according to Western economists.

It is the biggest payment due since the Brook amendment started to bite in Egypt last November. Further substantial, though smaller, payments are due in October, November and December.

Egypt's second biggest creditor, France, has also threatened to cut off aid if debt repayments of around \$150 to 200 million a year are not met, economists say.

Economists speculate that a sharp rise in Arab aid, which virtually dried up after Egypt signed a peace treaty with Israel in 1979, may have helped stave off an earlier crisis.

Loans from a Group of Seven Arab and Islamic

donors shot up to \$400 million in 1989 from \$6 million in 1988, according to figures published by the donors, and this year could go even higher. Last month Saudi Arabia donated 200,000 tonnes of wheat.

The financing from the Arab states resulted from Egypt's readmission into the Arab fold after years in the wilderness following its 1979 peace pact with Israel.

## Quota cannot be abandoned

### Saudis discover new oilfield

CARACAS, July 17, (Reuters): Opec's production quota system cannot be abandoned until demand is such that all member nations are producing at full capacity. Secretary-General Subroto said.

"It should be changed when demand for Opec oil is such that everybody can produce at full capacity," Subroto said after a meeting with Venezuelan Energy and Mines Minister Celestino Armas. "I would say it would be around '94 or '95 or so."

The Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries has been plagued this year by member nations violating their production quotas to earn more revenue, but prices dropped as a result.

Prices sank as low as \$14 a barrel prior to an accord worked out by Gulf Arab oil ministers last week in which Kuwait agreed to abide by its 1.5 million barrels per day (bpd) quota and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) agreed to a new quota of 1.5 million bpd after producing as much as two million bpd.

## Millions of old forced to work

### ILO study on labour force

GENEVA, July 17, (Kuna): Millions of old men and women are forced to work well beyond the age of 65 due to economic necessity which makes it impossible for them to "retire," and many continue until they die or are incapacitated by illness or physical disability.

A study by the International Labour Office (ILO) on labour force participation of older persons covering 151 countries, published today, reveals that in many less developed regions of the world, a substantial percentage of men and women aged 65 and over continue to work.

The main findings of the study are that in the more prosperous countries with sound social security systems, there are relatively fewer numbers of people wanting, or being forced by economic circumstances, to work beyond the age of 65.

**Africa**  
The continent of Africa is where the largest number of old people are forced, by economic and family circumstances, to work well beyond the age of 65.

In at least 20 African countries, for instance, between 74 and 91 per cent of older people, 65 or over, continue to work, the ILO study noted.

The ILO document pointed out that countries enjoying high national income per capita tend

to have the lowest number of older people continuing to work beyond 65.

**Europeans**  
In the case of males, European nations have the lowest labour participation rate, for older women, European countries and the Islamic nations of North Africa have the lowest participation rates.

The study also found that the larger the number of ageing people in the population, the lower the proportion of older men remaining in the labour force after age 55.

Nations with fully developed social security programmes, said the study, have relatively low rates of labour force participation by older men who find themselves in a position to retire because of assured income from such programmes.

Also, population ageing tends to increase participation of women in the work force whereas it has the opposite effect on male participation.

**Decline**  
"In summary, labour force participation rates of older persons decline in conjunction with economic development as increased wealth is partly taken in increased leisure through the shortening of working life for those who survive to old age," the study said.

Opec ministers are expected to approve an output ceiling of 22.5 million bpd at the ministers conference in Geneva which begins on July 25.

Asked about comments by some Venezuelan officials that their country should receive a larger quota, Subroto replied: "Opec production quotas have always been negotiated during ministers' meetings and Venezuela should come out with that proposal and discuss it at the conference."

Some Venezuelan officials are reported to be unhappy with Venezuela's current quota of 1.94 million bpd, or 8.6 per cent of Opec's total daily output, which is about half its share of 20 years ago.

Subroto, who also held talks with President Carlos Andres Perez on Tuesday, is in Venezuela to address the Fourth Venezuelan Petroleum Conference on Tuesday.

Saudi Arabian Oil Minister, Hisham Nazer said yesterday the Saudi Aramco Oil Company (Saudi Aramco) had discovered a new oilfield south of Riyadh.

The Saudi Press Agency (SPA), quoted the minister as saying Al Hazmiah well was the sixth to be discovered in the central region within 13 months.

"Al Hazmiah Well Number 1 lies 205 kms (127 miles) south of Riyadh and nine kms (five miles) south of Al Hawtah Well, the first well discovered by Saudi Aramco in the central region in June 1989," he said.

One of the six wells produces sweet gas and condensates while the other five wells produce sweet, high-quality oil, he added. Nazer said drilling on the new well began on June 13 and during tests two days later oil gushed at an average of 4,300 barrels per day, while gas gushed at an average of 12,600 cubic feet (1,173 cubic metres) per day.

"The crude oil was sweet with a 48 degree density on the American Petroleum Institute's (API) scale and did not contain sulphurated hydrogen," he added.

## KD short dates deal again active

KUWAIT, July 17, (Reuters): Short dates were again active on the Kuwaiti dollar interbank deposit market today, dealers said.

Overnight deals at 8-1/8 and later at 8-5/8 pct, but other short dates had eased towards the end of the morning.

Tomorrow/next deal at 8-1/4 early morning, and later at 7-3/4, while spot/next deal at 8-7/16, 8-1/4 and 8-1/8. Rates in short dates were easier as banks were looking to end ahead of tomorrow's Treasury bill maturity, said one dealer. Fixed rates were quiet, and rates were basically unchanged, he added. The Central Bank fixed the dinar at 0.29061/71 to the dollar.

The Saudi riyal interbank deposit market was well offered today, particularly in the shorter periods, dealers said.

Rates were easier, they said, and spot/next was being quoted around 7-1/2 seven pct, and one week at 7-3/4 7-1/4. In the fixed dates, one month was quoted at 7-3/4 7-5/8, three months at 7-15/16 7-13/16, six months at eight 7-7/8, and one year at 8-1/8 eight.

## Biggest in the Gulf

### Alba to get \$650m loan

BAHRAIN, July 17, (Reuters): Aluminium Bahrain BSC (Alba) today signed a \$650 million loan — the biggest commercial facility in the Gulf for several years — with a consortium of 46 international banks.

Alba asked banks to raise the amount of the 10-year loan last month after a general syndication for \$165 million was 57.6 per cent oversubscribed.

The money will finance the first part of a \$1.45 billion expansion which will more than double the smelter's capacity to 460,000 tonnes per year by 1992, making it the biggest outside the Soviet Union.

Repayment will begin four years from the signing date. The loan is priced at 3/8 per cent over the London Interbank Offered Rate (Libor) for the first three years and 1/2 per cent over Libor for the remaining seven.

Gulf Investment Corporation, Arab Banking Corporation, Arab Bank, Banque Paribas, IBI International, Mitsubishi Bank, National Commercial Bank, Riyad Bank, Sumitomo Bank and Manufacturers Hanover arranged the facility.

Alba is also seeking \$475 million in export credits.

## US industrial output rises 0.4pc in June

WASHINGTON, July 17, (AP): US industrial production rose 0.4 per cent in June, largely because of a jump in automobile production and a heat wave that boosted utility output, the Federal Reserve said today.

Together, those two factors accounted for three-fourths of the June increase, the Fed said. Last month's increase follows a 0.6 per cent increase for May, which had also been attributed mainly to an increase in automobile production.

The Fed also reported the operating rate of the nation's factories, mines and utilities — which usually move in tandem with industrial production — rose 0.2 percentage point to 83.5 per cent in June. The operating rate measures not only output but also changes in productivity levels.

The 0.4 per cent gain in indus-

trial production last month was something of a surprise to analysts, who had been looking for a more modest increase.

From April through June, industrial production climbed at an annual rate of 3.5 per cent, significantly better than a mediocre 0.6 per cent annual rate of gain in the first three months of the year.

However, analysts tended to downplay the upturn, saying much of the strength in auto production is likely to be temporary as automakers build up inventories in anticipation of a possible walkout by the United Auto workers.

In revising earlier figures, the Fed said industrial production fell 0.2 per cent in April, rather than the unchanged rate earlier reported. The March figure was also revised down to a 0.4 per cent increase.

## Special Report

## Gulf market changing

### Producers presented with new opportunities

By Dr Henry Azzam

THE dawn of the new decade has marked the beginning of a changing pattern in Gulf consumer markets. As Gulf countries become more cohesive, barriers between them are disappearing fast and the free movement of goods and nationals across boundaries is already very much in evidence.

As the region gradually climbs out of the recession and oil revenues look set to increase over the coming few years, the Gulf markets present producers and suppliers of consumer goods and services with new opportunities. The region is one of the richest consumer markets in the world with the Gulf consumer enjoying high per capita income and per capita consumption. With current GCC oil revenues of over \$40 billion expected to rise to \$100 billion in the late 1990s, the region possesses enormous buying power. It is the companies that analyze the changing trends and invest in research, development and marketing, that will be able to establish a foothold in the Gulf market and fully exploit its potential.

One of the striking characteristics of the Gulf market is the large proportion of goods and services it imports. The six Gulf states with Iraq constitute the eighth largest import market in the world, providing rich pickings for companies who create a demand for their products. A growing, largely young population, and the wide array of different nationalities each with its own particular set of preferences, makes the marketing task even more challenging. Market research will play a significant part in developing close understanding of the consumers.

**Role**  
The region's private sectors have been given a central role to play during the 1990s. For exporters to the region, this commitment represents a considerable challenge. It means companies who wish to sell effectively in the Gulf market need to discern the performance, structure and future prospects of the region's private sectors. Although the majority of the private sector's companies are small businesses and comparatively young, there are close to 120,000 companies registered in the region with more than 70,000 in Saudi Arabia; these are companies which tend to be more entrepreneurial and have strong potentials to grow. Many of the small enterprises today could become the big businesses of tomorrow. Up till now the large companies have been the preferred representatives and partners of international companies doing business in the region. These are the leading trading houses of the region who tend to participate in a wide range of activities. They are privately owned usually by a family (e.g. The Juffali, the Zamil, the Bazag, Al-Jabbar, Kanoo, Al-Gurair etc.) and have shown the capacity to absorb modern private businesses. The big companies will continue to flourish, some will become joint stock companies and the majority will maintain their strategy to branch out from construction and trading to industry and other services.

The demand for goods and services in the region will change dramatically over the next ten years. This change will be largely driven by a growing national population, changing demographic profile of expatriates living in the Gulf, shifting of tastes and preferences, growth of local companies, the proliferation of supermarkets and more and better advertising.

### Changing structure

The Gulf consumer markets in the 1960s were in their infancy, with no emphasis in brand names and hence an absence of marketing. Normally the head of the household usually did the shopping, purchasing a specific commodity or a product and not necessarily a specific brand. The corner grocery stores attracted a large portion of retail food sales and lower income households resorted going to the supermarket assuming that the sophisticated atmosphere at these places would mean paying more. The best form of advertisement was by "word of mouth" complemented with newspapers ads, rusty billboards on the sides of the roads and neon signs.

The oil boom of the 70s brought forth a richer, less price sensitive consumer. Modern retail outlets such as supermarkets and other self service stores sprang up and producers started paying more attention to the marketing of their products through advertising. Increasingly, more women assumed the role of the shopper and quality became associated with a brand image. The products that enjoyed the lion's share of sales were some of those that arrived earliest. If they withstood the durability test and the after sales service was good, they could establish a strong hold of the market. Market shares of over 50 per cent were not uncommon. In the consumer goods market, large number of products become known by

their brand names, washing powder was often called Tide, toothpaste had become Kolynos, tissue paper Kleenex, vacuum cleaners Hoover and Toyota's mini trucks number 12 as one-eight or simply "Wanet". It was extremely difficult for a newcomer to break into the market. There was no television or radio advertising and if one could not read, he would have little contact with advertisements in the written media. Special promotions and exhibitions were just becoming a feature of marketing campaigns in Kuwait, UAE and Bahrain.

Television advertising has pulled all other types of advertising in the region up with it. One started to see very high-quality billboards and neon signs as well as diversified newspaper ads, while importers and manufacturers conducted point-of-sale promotions, as a backdrop to TV campaigns. An interesting consequence of television advertising is that during the recession period of 1986-1988, when it had been expected that cheaper, lower-quality brands would capture a big market share, the brands that have sold best have been the well-known, traditional, high-quality ones, whose manufacturers and importers have had the money to produce the most professional ads. However, the number of Gulf trading and industrial companies involved in advertising remained relatively small. Smart advertising, like strategic planning, has been something for the most sophisticated.

**Outlook**  
With the advent of the 1990s the pendulum has swung again. Economic activities are gradually picking up and the outlook for oil revenues and non-oil output is rather encouraging. With the higher GNP levels, imports are expected to grow. Total GCC merchandise imports have been on the rise following the low reached during the oil glut years. The 1988 figure for GCC merchandise imports was about \$41.0 billion, this is estimated to have risen to \$43.0 billion last year and the upward trend will most probably continue into the 1990s.

The diversification of the GCC economies into non-oil sectors means that there will be a steady stream of locally manufactured products which will be competing with imports for market share. Such products as cement, steel shapes, building materials, furniture, tires, air-conditioning units, lubricants, foodstuffs, dairy products, animal feeds, packaging materials, tissue paper, edible oil, plastic bags, etc. are being produced in the region and these are of high quality and generally are competitive in price. The trend of import substitution in the field of basic food commodities and light consumer products will continue in the 1990s. It has become more evident that any leading company wishing to trade with the Gulf countries in these products needs to actively manufacture locally. The GCC market is becoming highly efficient, cost effective and will soon be seen as a manufacturer rather than an importer of many consumer goods.

Four major trends will shape Gulf markets as they proceed into the 90s. One is a steady increase in the range of locally produced goods, especially through joint ventures between Gulf and international producers that will be favoured in governments' purchases and protected from outside competition when needed, especially if dumping policies were to be followed by exporters to the region. Saudi Arabia in particular is the market leader in the field of local manufacturing.

Second, the number of supermarkets, corner shops and other self service outlets will rise Gulf wide, leaving the choice of the product in the hand of the purchaser. It is not just a growth in the number of supermarkets but also in the quality of these outlets and the kind of services provided. The flourishing of commercial centres will continue offering recreation as well as trade facilities. All this will increase competition and advertising will undoubtedly become the corner stone of marketing.

Third, the existing co-operative schemes among the six GCC states and the gradual implementation of the Unified Economic Agreement point to the possibility of having a Gulf-wide common market in 1993. Exporters, local producers, wholesalers and retailers should start considering this prospect more seriously in their future strategic plans.

Fourth, the changing demographic profiles and the new developments at the micro or family level will also have a clear impact on Gulf consumer markets. Total GCC population is projected to reach 21 million in 1995 and 24 million by the turn of the century. The percentage of national population is foreseen rising to 63 per cent in the year 2000 or close to 65 million compared to an estimated 60 per cent or 11 million in 1990. The proportion of those aged less than

15 is projected to drop from 43 per cent in 1990 to 39 per cent in the year 2000, reflecting slightly lower fertility rates and an ageing population. The dependency ratio (the number of old and young divided by the number of working age) will continue to fall and this will undoubtedly have an impact on saving and consumption patterns in the region.

The socio-economic changes at the micro or family level will also be significant. Multiple households belonging to one man and the extended family structure are gradually being replaced by smaller cellular family units. Children are becoming economically independent at a much earlier age than before. Literacy rates are rising and are especially high for those under the 25 years age group. The region is also witnessing changes in time-use, attitudes, life styles, social values, education and income levels. As a result, the lower middle income buyer is becoming as much a candidate to purchase a top quality brand as someone with a much higher income. The fact that so many young women are getting education today at all levels from school to university must result over the coming decade in a much larger female labour force participation especially in certain public sector services. Women will play a more effective role in shaping Gulf consumer markets in the 1990s.

### Consumer

Tomorrow's Gulf consumer will undoubtedly have different standards and values from those of his parents and certainly his grandparents. These young people have grown up with television and have seen role models other than those available in their homes. Gulf consumers of the 1990s will be more educated with a higher level of sophistication and will be more informed of what is available in the market place when hesitating their purchasing habits. Unfortunately, the less sophisticated Gulf businessmen will consider marketing as an unnecessary overhead. They are attuned to the boom years when sales expanded as a natural consequence of the growth of the economy. Nobody spent money on market research and the old newspaper and billboard ads cost little. Likewise, selling was regarded as a simple matter not worthy of special attention. People who invested in industry imagined that if there is a market for a certain quantity of an imported product and they were able to manufacture that quantity locally, they should be able to capture that market. This fallacious argument has been one of major reasons for the failure of several industrial plants in the 1980s.

The need to maintain and increase market share in an increasingly competitive environment, has recently pushed the importance of marketing to the forefront. Manufacturers, retailers, dealers, and wholesalers are becoming more aware of the importance of marketing to augment sales and profitability. The recent formation of the Gulf Marketing Association (GMA) is aimed at devising and implementing a marketing strategy that is relevant to the region's requirements. The concept of marketing is relatively new to the Gulf states and it is only in the recent past that brand loyalties have been established and increasing emphasis placed on advertising which is the marketing industry's most important medium.

The largest share of media advertising in the Gulf countries goes to newspapers and magazines which together account for more than 60 per cent of total advertising expenditure (chart 1 and 2). Television advertising is a relatively new phenomenon and accounts for 33 per cent of media advertising expenditure in the UAE and Bahrain and 22 per cent in Saudi Arabia.

As the advertising industry in Bahrain, Oman and Saudi Arabia experienced rapid growth in 1989, advertising in Kuwait suffered a set back when Kuwait television announced a doubling of its rates and the withdrawal of commissions normally granted to advertising agencies. The UAE advertising industry continued to do well and received a boost with the opening of the new Sharjah television station, the third in the UAE, and provides a fifth commercial channel for advertising.

### Drawbacks

One of the major drawbacks for firms advertising their products in the Gulf is the lack of media research. No statistics are available on the effectiveness of media penetration. In order to rectify that a new body, the Joint Industry Committee for Middle East Media Research (JICME), is carrying out a survey in Saudi Arabia to be followed by similar surveys in other Gulf countries. The survey will cover the four media groups of television, video, newspapers, and radio. The research data they collect will then be available to subscribing companies. The research carried out by the JICME will

provide useful information to companies who should then be better able to market their products.

Experts to this part of the world have for a long time appreciated the value of national, regional and international trade fairs, exhibitions and seminars. Such events are regularly held in major Gulf cities and often attract many visitors including businessmen and representatives of purchasing organisations. They provide useful venues for market testing, creating and developing business contacts and for introducing new products to the region.

As the nature of the consumer market has changed over the past few years, so has the availability of goods from various origins. The Newly Industrialised Countries (NICs) of the Far East are manufacturing increasingly acceptable products and are competing directly with the products of Western industrialised countries and Japan. Possessing the technical know-how and an abundance of relatively cheap labour, they can offer their products at extremely attractive prices to the consumer.

Among consumer products, food items and toiletries constitute a major part of household budgets. In Saudi Arabia for example they account for about 43 per cent of total household expenses for a Saudi family and 38 per cent for an expatriate family. The affluence of the Gulf consumer, the demand for more choice, and the large amounts spent on food and toiletries has continued to boost sales at supermarkets and ensured that they are here to stay.

Besides promotions and discounts, manufacturers and retailers will have to continue to offer added incentives if they are to increase market share. Providing free gasoline for a year (as was offered by the Hyundai car agent in Riyadh) have succeeded in increasing sales and attract interest to the Korean made car. However, it is manufacturers with the after sales service, spare parts, and other support facilities, who will be successful in promoting their models. The prevailing exchange rates, with Gulf currencies being in effect pegged to the dollar will also be a decisive factor in consumer products sales. This factor along with the price advantage and back up service, helped for example to promote Hyundai sales in the last two years.

### Conclusion

In conclusion it can be said that the changing times ahead point to an ever greater need for firms to deliver a better, cheaper, and more aggressively marketed product to the consumer. The intense competition from local production and imports from the NICs should see established firms battling to maintain market share. This will be to the benefit of the Gulf consumer who will ultimately enjoy good quality products and more competitive prices.

A joint marketing effort between the supplier and the distributor is needed to help identify those whose influence large-scale purchasing (such as trade associations, public sector procurement committees, trade press editors, etc.) and keep them informed of the distinctive qualities of the product or service that is being promoted.

There is a pressing need for more media and product research. The non-existence of data relating to the effectiveness of media advertising on which millions of dollars may be spent makes the marketing task even more difficult. There is also a need for greater product research.

The coming decade promises to offer good opportunities for investment in the Gulf market. The high population growth will bring forth a growing consumer market and this along with large disposable incomes will ensure increased sales. The market will continue to grow as the GCC countries move closer to a common market. Manufacturers ignoring trends and changes in local demand will see their share of the lucrative Gulf market slipping. The businesses that have adapted their product to the Gulf market and honed their marketing techniques will emerge as the winners.

Instead of the sales approach followed by companies exporting to the Gulf region in 1970s and 1980s, the following four step strategy is recommended for an effective market penetration in the 1990s: (1) Firms should identify real consumer needs, (2) develop products which meet these needs (this may involve altering the taste, colour, or packaging of products), (3) create a demand for the product by advertising in order to reach the target consumers (by sex, age bracket, nationality etc.), and (4) continue improving the product because once they succeed, others will follow, and they will need to keep moving all the time, creating a brand concept. The 1990 will undoubtedly be the decade of the brand. (Courtesy: GIB)

## US trade deficit climbed to \$7.73b in May reflecting big jump in imports

WASHINGTON, July 17, (AP): The US trade deficit climbed to \$7.73 billion in May, reflecting a big jump in imports of oil and foreign cars, the government said today.

The Commerce Department said the May trade deficit was 5.8 per cent higher than a revised April imbalance of \$7.31 billion.

In May, imports climbed 2.9 per cent to \$40.52 billion, offsetting a 2.3 per cent rise in US exports, which totalled \$32.79 billion in May. The trade deficit is the difference between imports and exports.

The big surge in oil accounted for almost half of the increase in imports last month, with imports of cars and other manufactured goods accounting for the rest of the gain.

This increase overshadowed a healthy advance in US exports, which posted their second best showing on record.

President George Bush's administration is counting on strength in exports to offset a sluggish domestic economy and keep the country out of a recession this year.

During the first three months of 1990, fully half of all economic growth was contributed by gains in exports.

Through the first five months of this year, the US trade deficit has been running at an annual rate of \$97.68 billion, surprising many analysts who had been forecasting that this year's deficit would be little changed from the \$109.4-billion imbalance recorded in 1989.

The Bush administration is confidently predicting that America's trade performance will continue to improve throughout the year. However, many

private analysts worry that America's growing dependence on foreign oil will eat into the export gains being made by US businesses.

In May, oil imports shot up 15.2 per cent to \$4.32 billion. The advance reflected an increase in the volume of shipments, which rose to 8.95 million barrels a day, up from daily shipments of 7.55 million barrels in April.

The price per barrel actually fell to \$15.57 per barrel, down a full 11 from the April price.

See also Page 14

## BUSINESS

# US budget in a mess: White House report



CEA chairman Michael Boskin takes a question from the press during the mid-session 1991 review of US President George Bush's fiscal 1991 budget, on Monday, as OMB director Richard Darman (left) and Treasury Secretary Nicholas Brady (right) look on. (Reuters wirephoto)

## 18 votes short of victory

### Balanced budget

WASHINGTON, July 17, (AP): Supporters of a balanced budget amendment to the constitution said yesterday they were short of the votes needed to win passage in the House of Representatives.

"We're not doing as well as I'd hoped right now," said Rep Charles Stenholm, a Texas Democrat.

However, Stenholm said he and other supporters were lobbying hard and expected to come closer than ever today to the required two-thirds majority.

Stenholm, prime Democratic sponsor of the amendment, said he was about 18 votes short of victory but that there were enough undecided votes to put it over the top.

WASHINGTON, July 17, (Reuters): The White House has issued a report designed to scare lawmakers into a budget deal saying the US budget deficit will rise to an alarming level next year and will require draconian cuts in everything from air safety to vaccinations.

US President George Bush's financial experts yesterday raised their forecast of the federal budget deficit to \$169 billion for fiscal 1991, which starts October 1. This is far above the \$100.5 billion deficit for 1991 forecast by Bush when he sent his budget plan to Congress in January and is higher than the \$161 billion in red ink expected this year.

Stocked by the new numbers, House Budget Committee chairman Leon Panetta, said the report should "hit the Congress, the White House and the budget summit like a fire alarm in the middle of the night."

Panetta, a California Democrat, said an agreement must be reached between the

White House and Congress on the 1991 spending and tax plan in two weeks, or no agreement is likely before the November elections.

But his Senate counterpart, Budget Committee chairman Jim Sasser, said the budget talks will probably still move at a snail's pace with no agreement before automatic spending cuts called for by law are to take place in October.

If no agreement is reached to bring the deficit down to \$64 billion by Oct 1, under a federal balanced budget law, \$105 billion in automatic spending cuts in domestic, defence and foreign affairs programmes would be triggered.

Originally the law called for a balanced budget by fiscal 1991. Two years ago the balanced budget goals was pushed to 1993. Some in Congress predicted they will even-

tually agree to raise this target because the US economy would be pushed into a recession if forced to absorb \$105 billion in government spending cuts in one year.

If that does not happen, Treasury Secretary Nicholas Brady said he is determined to make the cuts required by law.

"If a fully responsible deficit reduction programme is not enacted by the Congress, this automatic \$100 billion will affect almost all the federal government touches," Bush said in a written statement.

Bush said the automatic cuts would range "from military readiness to air safety, to vaccinations for children to programmes for the elderly, to drug abuse prevention."

Although Bush has said a budget pact will be needed to bring about a budget pact with Democrats, Republicans said yesterday they are determined to resist raising taxes.

## World trade grew slower in 1989: IMF

### American exports increase

WASHINGTON, July 17, (AP): World trade grew last year but much more slowly than in the last two years, according to the International Monetary Fund.

The growth was 8.6 per cent, compared with nearly 15 per cent in 1988 and almost 19 per cent in 1987, according to an article in the fund's twice-a-month "IMF Survey," which was made available yesterday in advance of distribution next month.

World exports for 1989 totalled a record \$2.912 trillion for 161 countries, up from the \$2.683 trillion of 1988 and \$2.341 trillion in 1987, the article said. This does not include trade among the Soviet Union and a few other countries that do not belong to the fund.

The fund said all economic activity grew more slowly in 1989.

## Cote d'Azur tries for title

### High-tech aspiration

NICE, France, July 17, (Reuters): France's sun-splashed Cote d'Azur, best known for its beaches and casinos, is courting the title of high-tech capital of Europe—a Silicon Riviera.

Combining an advanced research park called Sophia-Antipolis, top-flight telecommunications, good international air transport links and a near-perfect climate, the region has succeeded, after 15 years of development, in building up a high-technology industry which equals tourism in economic terms.

The two sectors generated about 200 billion francs (\$3.6 billion) each in revenues last year, a testament to the government's determination to make France the technology centre of the European Community's planned single market after 1992.

France's goal is to make the area a partner with northern Italy and the headquarters for southern Europe in developing high technology industries.

"We face a lot of very close links already with Italy, which has no science park of its own," said Jacqueline Merts of the local agency which runs Sophia-Antipolis. "We think that it is very important that we increase co-operation with countries to southern Europe."

Several European countries have tried to create their own version of California's Silicon Valley or Massachusetts Route 128 belt — regions that gave birth to a majority of the world's leading electronics companies and at the same time brought wealth to their respective states.

The Cote d'Azur, with more than 3,000 firms and research laboratories specialising in high technology, has been one of the most successful imitators. But unlike its US counterparts, most of the big companies are branches of foreign giants.

The region cannot boast a home-grown success story along the lines of California's Apple Computer or Massachusetts Digital Equipment Corp., and industry analysts say the lack of a French venture capital industry almost guarantees that it never will.

But it has succeeded in attracting far more research laboratories than manufacturing plants, giving it an edge over

similar regions in Scotland and Ireland and ensuring that France will be more than a local assembly site for foreign companies.

Research centres of International Business Machines Corp., Thomson SA, France Telecom, Texas Instruments, Rohm and Haas, Dow Corning, Dow Chemical and Arthur Andersen are all located in the region.

Rockwell International built its first research centre outside the United States in Sophia-Antipolis two years ago, and Digital Equipment Corp., 10 years after setting up shop there, has just announced it is basing world-wide responsibility for development of its telecommunications business in the park too.

Sophia-Antipolis is the key to the Cote d'Azur's high-tech aspirations. It is home to some 700 firms and 10,000 employees in the industry.

Most of the world's high-tech regions, particularly Silicon Valley and Route 128 in the United States, developed around a renowned university or existing electronics companies.

But the Cote d'Azur had no important schools and virtually no industry, other than perfume making and tourism. The French and regional governments created Sophia-Antipolis on scrub bushland overlooking Antibes as part of a drive to push industry away from Paris into the struggling countryside.

The Riviera was chosen more for Nice International Airport and its attractive location than any available expertise, officials said. So in 1971 the government funded the creation of the park and encouraged several universities to open branches there.

France Telecom did its bit by making the region a showplace for its efforts to upgrade the then-appalling French telephone system. The park now has one of the world's most advanced public communications systems, including 500 km (300 miles) of optical fibre and the first broadly implemented integrated services digital network (ISDN).

"The key reason we decided to locate here was because this area was very eager to develop the kind of telecommunications infrastructure we needed," said Stan Smith, head of telecom engineering for Digital.

It cited as important developments an increase in US exports by \$44 billion and in Japan's imports of \$22 billion. Japan's imports have been increasing at an average rate of 18 per cent over the past three years, it said.

The increase corresponds with IMF's advice that Japan needs to increase its imports to reduce its surplus in world trade and give its people a better standard of living. Advice to the United States has emphasised a need to reduce its deficit in world trade — \$128.937 billion in 1989, according to the fund — as well as its budget deficit. In 1988 the US trade deficit was \$137.026 billion, according to the IMF.

"Although the US trade deficit and the Japanese trade surplus continued to decline, the sizable trade surplus of the Federal Republic of Germany remained practically unchanged," the article said.

"The shift in the position of the United States reflected the increased competitiveness of US exports owing partly to the dollar decline over several years. The US gain has been mainly at the expense of Japan, whose share has fallen to 9.4 per cent in 1989 from 10.7 per cent of world exports in 1987."

The West German excess of exports over imports amounted to \$71.59 billion in 1989, according to the fund's monthly "International Financial Statistics" for June.

The survey said Italy's exports and imports both recorded a strong increase for 1989 and its trade deficit increased markedly, as did those of Australia and Spain.

Third World trade grew more rapidly than trade of the industrial countries, but more slowly than in 1988.

The article noted an increase of \$26 billion, nearly 20 per cent, in exports of oil-producing countries in 1989.

### Aviation trade committee meets

DAMASCUS, July 17, (Kuna): Higher trade committee of the Arab aviation companies yesterday started deliberations here to presence of representatives of the International Air Transport Association (IATA).

The participants, during their yesterday's session, reviewed studies and proposals presented by a number of Arab airlines focussing on enhancement of joint Arab co-operation in their transport field.

A spokesman of the participant companies, which are members of the Arab Air Transport Association, said the deliberations mirrored the keenness of the conferees to take collective steps in the fields of aviation, air transport, and joint training courses and plans to confront European airlines' policies against the Arab group.

ITCB members are: Argentina, Bangladesh, Brazil, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Egypt, El Salvador, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Jamaica, Mexico, Malaysia, Pakistan, Peru, South Korea, Sri Lanka, Turkey, Uruguay and Yugoslavia.

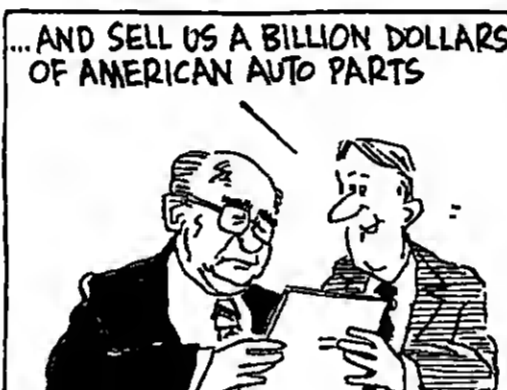
The textile group has been studying proposals from the EC, the United States, Canada and the ITCB with the aim of completing a draft outline agreement by the end of this month.

The EC proposed envisaged phasing out MFA over an unspecified time, accompanied by parallel strengthening of GATT rules and disciplines aimed at opening up markets and creating fair competitive conditions.

The ITCB has proposed restrictions should be progressively eliminated in four stages over six years ending at the end of 1997.

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## EC wants to keep textile restrictions

GENEVA, July 17, (Reuters): Third World textile exporters say the European Community seems to be trying to perpetuate restriction protecting EC producers against competition from developing countries.

The 22-member International Textile and Clothing Bureau (ITCB) said this was how they viewed EC proposals for liberalising world commerce in textiles and clothing at the GATT forum's Uruguay Round of global trade talks.

ITCB chairman Hassan Kartadjoem of Indonesia made the statement at a session of a Uruguay Round negotiating group on textiles on Friday. The text was made available yesterday.

The 105-nation Uruguay Round, named after the country where they were launched in 1986, is scheduled to wind up in December in Brussels with a series of agreements setting the pattern for international commerce well into the next century.

Kartadjoem said EC proposals on phasing out the current Multi-Fibre Agreement (MFA) governing about half the world's textile trade appeared aimed really at "backing a perpetuation of the MFA under the cloak of a transition arrangement."

The 51-nation MFA, which expires on July 31 next year, allows industrialised countries to protect their domestic textile industries through individual agreements limiting foreign imports.

A major aim of the U. agency Round negotiations, covering 15 sectors of international commerce, is gradually to bring the \$177 billion world textile trade fully under the rules of the General Agreement on Trade and Tariffs (GATT).

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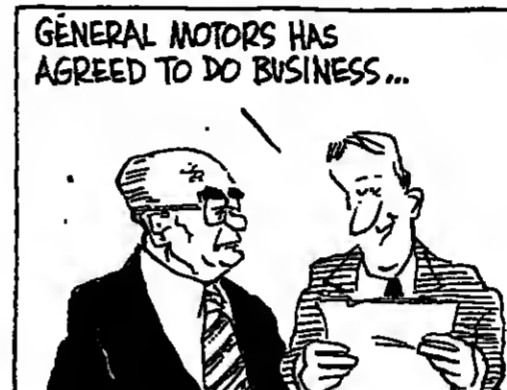
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## Subsidies reduction

### World-wide negotiations

WASHINGTON, July 17, (AP): US government subsidies of \$2.7 billion to help export farm goods have provoked Western Europe into negotiating on the reduction of farm subsidies world-wide, according to the US General Accounting Office (GAO).

These subsidies cost taxpayers and consumers in the United States and other countries \$245 billion a year, according to one authoritative estimate. The figure comes from the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), which groups the world's 24 wealthiest lands.

It said that last year the US government spent more than \$32 billion on farm subsidies, the 12 European countries over \$53 billion and Japan more than \$33 billion.

Last week's summit in Houston laid down the goals for an agreement on reductions in subsidies by the end of this year. It said a meeting on the issue in Geneva July 23 will be critical to four years of world-wide negotiations on all kinds of trade. About 100 governments take part in this "Uruguay Round" of talks.

The GAO, which watches the US executive on behalf of Congress, called the US "export enhancement programme" an important negotiating tool. Supporters of it say it forces the 12 countries of the European Economic Community to spend more on subsidies themselves in order to compete, and so compels them to talk about reductions.

Rep. Kika de la Garza, chairman of the Agriculture Committee in the House of Representatives, asked for the report. It was sent June 14 and became available to reporters yesterday.

"Abandoning the programme now would send the wrong signal to US competitors during the final months of the Uruguay Round," the GAO said.

WASHINGTON, July 17, (Reuters): Stock prices closed higher on a spurt of futures-related arbitrage buying in the final moments of trading. The Nikkei average was up 150.55 points, or 0.46 per cent, 33,172.28 after gaining 377.36 points yesterday.

SYDNEY: Steady overseas and domestic buying gave share prices a boost with the All Ordinaries index closing 15.5 points higher at 1,624.0. Brokers said the market took its lead from New York, where the Dow Jones closed 19 points higher.

HONG KONG: Hong Kong's main stocks gauge, the Hang Seng index, ended lower on profit-taking after last week's big gains. The index shed 24.91 points to end at 3,463.94.

SINGAPORE: After three successive days of rises, the Straits Times industrial index of 30-Singapore blue chips retreated 4.90 points to end at 1,571.04.

BOMBAY: Shares rebounded strongly after a crisis in Prime Minister Vishwanath Pratap Singh's government blew over. The Bombay Stock Exchange index recovered 30.60 points, or 3.46 per cent, to 916.93. The national index rose 9.69 to 477.32.

FRANKFURT: News the Soviet Union would not block German unification left the share market little moved. The 30-share Dax index ended 2.86

## Bombay shares

Bombay Stock Exchange prices (Rs)	Interol	257.50	263.75	262.50
July 17, '90.	JK Syc	67	67	69.50
ACC	730	Open	730	810
Alem Chem	—	—	—	—
Ajw Nis	—	—	—	—
Arif Fab	—	—	—	—
Ashtok Ley	83	82	84	84
Asia Paint	236.25	237.50	237.50	237.50
Cap Corp	46	45	46	46
Auto Corp	99	99	103	103
Nai Index	467.63	—	477.32	477.32
Bajaj Auto	507.50	513.75	513.75	513.75
Bar Rayon	1075	1100	1090	1090
Blow Plast	248	251	254.50	254.50
Bom Dye	114.50	114	116	116
Burr Wal	—	—	—	—
Cashmere	392.5	405.0	417.5	417.5
Cen Enka	363.0	365.0	378.0	378.0
Cen Sps	245	247	250	250
Colgate	1059	1040	1050	1050
Cromi Fr	31	29	30	30
Deep Fert	29.50	29.50	29.50	29.50
Dunlop	62	57.50	58	58
El Hotels	38	38	39	39
Esports	103	106.50	108	108
BSE Index	885.33	140	916.93	916.93
Eshtel	137.50	140	140	140
Eshtel Sps	39	41	40.50	40.50
Food Sps	123.75	125	128.75	128.75
Forbes	60	59	61	61
Gar Poly	35.50	35.50	39	39
Guj Alco	99.50	99	103	103
GNFC	40	39.75	39.75	39.75
Grasim	140	140.50	145.50	145.50
GE Ship	42.50	43.50	43.75	43.75
Hind Lever	213.75	216.25	217.50	217.50
Guj Alco	90	89	90	90
Guj Heavy	15.50	15	15.50	15.50
Here Honda	37	36.50	37	37
Hind Ciba	1480	1500	1510	1510
Hind Lever	125	125.50	127	127
Hind Cocan	163.75	165	170	170
Hind Motor	41.50	42	44.50	44.50
Hindalco	297.50	298.75	307.50	307.50
Hoodlat	230	235	238	238
Ingersoll	235	235.50	245	245
ITC	89	90	92	92
Ind Org	57	58	61.25	61.25
Ind Rayon	120.50	122	125	125
Kin Engg	170	164	167.75	167.75
Kic Cum	76	78	78	78
KSA Pumps	195	187.50	192.50	192.50
Lat T	92.50	96	96.50	96.50
Lipton	82	83	84.50	84.50
Mac Russel	88	90	90	90
Mad Coats	125	121.25	125	125
Mahindra	86.15	86	87.50	87.50
Max Share	19.85	20	20.50	20.50
Mico	940	970	965	965
Modi	180	160	177.50	177.50
MRF Ltd	75	76	79	79
Muk Iron	135	138	142.50	142.50
Nai Org	1340	1340	1360	1360
Nippon	36	35.50	36.50	36.50
Orkay	23.25	23.75	25	25
Oswal Agro	39.50	39	40	40
Peico	88	88	88	88
Pfizer	247.50	247.50	248.75	248.75
Ponds	67.50	68	70.50	70.50
Ranbaxy	99	97.50	99	99
Ray Wool	87	88	89.50	89.50
Reckitt	235	232.50	235	235
Reliance	94.50	98	97	97
Sesa Goa	95	96	99	99
Shaw Wall	—	—	—	—
Shree Cem	50	50	55	55
Shri Fib	111	112	114	114
Tisco	158.5	1590	1610	1610
Vam Org	127.50	128	128	128
Vareli	—	—	—	—
Vollas	97	97	101	101
Wimco	22.50	24	24.50	24.50
Zenith	48	48	49	49
Zuari Agro	68	68	69	69

Compiled by Kuwait-India International Exchange Co.

## Car survey results baffle

### Experts praise Power

DETROIT, July 17, (UPI): Shopping for a new car can be confusing enough. But when six auto companies in one week claim their brand is tops, it becomes downright baffling.

That's what happened earlier this month when Acura, Cadillac, Chrysler, Lexus, Mazda and Toyota each issued slickly worded releases touting their wares as the "most trouble-free" or "most satisfying," all citing the latest findings by J.D. Power.

But what is J.D. Power? How are these surveys done and why do carmakers sometimes spend millions to frame advertising campaigns around them?

And why do some industry executives and analysts discount the surveys as statistically invalid or say they have lost credibility? J.D. Power and Associates

## Indian Video Roundup

## Crime – and criminals

By Fathima Ahmed

Arab Times staff MEENA confronts Shekhar. "Tell me the truth. Did you have an affair, or didn't you?" Meena and Shekhar have been married for ten years. Infidelity is not on the cards, at least Meena believes so. Both fear the truth.

There is no melodrama when Shekhar admits his affair with the sensuous Geeta. Just a moment of shrieking pain; the cry muffled by their nine-year-old daughter's entry.

"Why is Mommy crying?"

"Don't worry darling, we were play acting. It's curtains down."

Meena walks out. Shekhar sighs. A scene from Mahesh Bhatt's *Jurm* (crime).

Director Mahesh Bhatt's forte has been his sensitive handling of home truths particularly those dealing with the tenuous man-woman relationship. Remember *Arth*? The triangular rift in which the husband loses both wife and mistress? *Jurm* is no *Arth*. Yet, some moments linger ... like Meena and Shekhar's confrontation, and Geeta and Shekhar's moment of weakness; that their affair is precipitated by extraneous circumstances, is the writer's connivance.

Seen in totality, *Jurm* is a re-hashed formula neatly packaged of crime and punishment. Bhatt's handling gives it an edge above the average movie from our conveyor-belt industry.

He deals with twin themes: marital rift, emotionally drain-



Meenakshi Seshadri

ing and violent crime and its consequences.

Shekhar is a policeman: Geeta witnesses an editor's cold-blooded murder; Meena, Shekhar's wife, is the unsuspecting victim — an angle in the triangle. Shekhar's unwitting involvement, first with Geeta and then in a political conspiracy, and the threat to Geeta's life complete

Jurm's fabric.

It's only when the emphasis shifts from the subtle nuances of breaking ties to a criminal conspiracy that Salim Khan's screenplay goes downhill. All hell breaks loose; chaotic chases; police brutality; politicians with questionable links and bad cops crop up like cockroaches in the dark of night. And in the best tradition of gimmicks, the director uses every trick in the book, including the proverbial kidnapping, to wrap up *Jurm*. As the curtain falls, you tend to forgive Bhatt's commercial excesses. In a fleeting moment, he captures Meena and Shekhar's reunion and their ecstasy. The other woman Geeta — moves on. So does life? Doesn't it?

Shafi Inamdar's comic cameo as a henpecked husband deserves a mention. Inamdar's problem is his nagging wife, who suspects his every move. His tongue-in-cheek performance leaves you chuckling.

Vinod Khanna as Shekhar tries to do justice to his role; Sanjeeta Bhatnagar's Geeta is seductive, glamorous and alluring. Although the model-turned actress is yet to grasp the finer points of acting, she is thoroughly convincing as the terrified victim in a couple of sequences. Meenakshi's Meena is restrained.

The above film is by courtesy of Athari Video, Main St., Farwaniya.



Vinod Khanna

## Hotel Beat



## Summer offer

TWO summer promotions are now being offered by the Sheraton Hotels of Kuwait, Bahrain, Doha, Dubai, Abu Dhabi and Oman. In collaboration with American Express, the hotel chain offers a "summer promotion" to American Express card holders in the months of July, August and September this year.

The hotel, in conjunction with three airlines, will upgrade full rate room booking to a suite if passengers present a first class boarding pass from Kuwait Airways, Gulf Air and Emirate Airlines.

## Amateur singers, dancers

AMATEUR singer Mohammad Qasim (right) who is a regular performer at Indian musical evenings, is to take part in a similar event this Friday. Qasim, who has been in Kuwait for several years, has acquired a reputation for singing original hits by Shabbir Kumar. He will sing for Valencia and Rosebud Daniel, the dancing sisters, who also take part in such shows. They will participate in Sur Sangeet's programme on July 19.



## Abou Nawas opened

THE new Abou Nawas Tunis was officially opened by the Tunisian Minister of Tourism Mr Jecham, the Mayor of Tunis Mr Belkhouja and Ahmed Al Ibrahim of Kuwait Real Estate Investment Consortium.

The 18 storey hotel, located in the centre of town, comprises of 282 double rooms, 30 luxurious suites, a VIP wing and several restaurants featuring Arabic and International cuisine.

Abou Nawas Hotels is a sister company of Kuwait Hotels Company and Jean Abou Nohra, well-known in Kuwait hotel circles, is the newly appointed general manager of the property.

Abou Nawas manages 13 hotels in different hotels in Tunisia and Algeria.



## Welcome

A reception was held by the Holiday Inn Crowne Plaza to welcome new staff members. General Manager Abdennadher welcomed the new personnel manager Mohammad Amin; executive secretary Jovita Foster and assistant food and beverage manager Michael Foster. All department heads attended the reception. Picture shows the newcomers with the hotel's manager.



Some of the hotel staff after the inauguration of Abou Nawas Hotel.

## TELEVISION PROGRAMMES

## KTV 1

- 9.00 Holy Quran
- 9.15 Cartoons
- 9.40 Iftah Ya Simsim children's programme
- 10.10 Good Morning
- 10.15 Waad Nahaar: daily serial, featuring Azza Kamel, Moustafa Fahmi.
- 11.15 Sabah Al Khair
- 12.00 Al Kanaz: Arabic serial, featuring Hind Kamel, Nazir Al Samara
- 1.00 News Summary
- 1.05 World News via Satellite
- 2.00 Al Sanafer: cartoon serial
- 2.00 Cartoons
- 2.30 Surkhay Nadam: Gulf serial; with Maryam Saleh, Ali Hassan
- 3.30 Lassie: English feature
- 4.30 English serial
- 5.30 Adventures: cartoon serial
- 6.30 Alam Al Ghad: (Tomorrow's World) — documentary
- 7.30 Music
- 8.15 Islamic Antiquities in Syria: documentary
- 9.00 News in Arabic
- 9.45 Raqeeb La Yanam: Arabic serial, starring Ahmad Mazhar, Samiya Al Ali
- 11.30 Soora Jitimaiah: "Al Kanaz" — Starring: Rafiq Subac, Antoine Naji, Arif Tawel
- 12.15 News Summary
- 12.20 World News via Satellite
- 12.40 Holy Quran/Closedown



Paradise, on KTV-2 tonight

## KTV 2

- 6.00 Holy Quran
- 6.10 The Karate Kid: cartoon serial
- 6.30 Alf: "Promises, Promises." Alf steps in to sort out a feud between father and daughter.
- 7.00 P.M. Magazine: A magazine featuring science news from around the world.
- 8.00 News in English
- 8.40 Chart Attack: Top twenty songs from Europe.
- 9.10 Paradise: Dead Run. Emilia is kidnapped

and tortured; Ethan plans a rescue operation.

10.00 Witness to Survival: Real-life stories about courage and determination to survive.

10.30 Feature Film: "Bullshot." A scientist who has invented a substitute of oil is kidnapped; his daughter seeks help to rescue him. Comedy.

12.00 News in Brief

12.10 Magazine D'Actualite/Closedown

Please note that Kuwait Television programmes and timings are liable to change without notice.

## WHAT'S ON

## Social

Approb 'Who's Who' directory THE Association of Pakistani Professionals and Businessmen (Approb) is planning to publish a "Who's Who" directory of prominent Pakistani professionals and businessmen resident in Kuwait by January 1991. The directory aims at providing information about all Pakistanis: proficient and distinguished in their professions and businesses.

Data forms are available free of cost from Approb executive board members and other locations. For further details contact Approb on Tel. No. 2425315, Fax 5323751, P.O. Box 2351, Safatya, 22024 Salmiya, Kuwait.

A copy of the directory will be given free of charge to all individuals whose names will appear in the directory.

## Kapilku

July 19: Kapilku awards certificates of attendance to those who attended tailoring, bookkeeping, basic accounts and basic computer courses. The ceremony will be held at Al Araliya Restaurant, 8 pm. Philippine Ambassador Maurya Mohammad Tamaño will be the chief guest. Buffet dinner, K.D 3 per person. Proceeds will go towards the school fund.

Those who attended self-improvement classes are asked to contact Sarah Macarim-bang. Tel: 4839009, 4839889, 4843447.

## Summer Belle '90

Aug 2: United Goans Centre will hold Summer Belle '90 at the SAS Hotel The Tent. Top Ranks and Hurricane Alley in attendance. For reservations call Tony 2612024; Cyril 2523930; Joe 5655140.

## Lit.

July 30: 10 am to 12 noon. LIL will hold a newscast coffee morning on Monday at the Sheraton Hotel, Mezzanine floor. Ladies new in LIL or Kuwait are welcome. For details contact Janet 2434941.

## Music

## Sur Sangeet

July 19: A musical evening will be presented by Sur Sangeet group to say farewell to outgoing Indian Second Secretary S.M. Mathur. Singers participating in the show include Valencia, Rosebud, Laxmi, Charlie, Shahnawaz Karim.

## Rock and Reggae

July 22: "Let's Rock and Reggae", a concert with Steve Michael and the Afro Beat, will be held from 9pm at the Holiday Inn Hotel's Grand Ballroom. Vocalist Sheryl Pereira will make a special appearance as a soloist and also join Steve in some duets. Tina Mathews will perform a Reggae dance routine. Reservations open. Tel: 2405648; 2476660; 5714340; 5721030. Tickets also available from special desk in Holiday Inn

lobby. The concert is being organised and presented by Phil Danielle. Early bookings are advised due to limited seating.

## Cinema

## Children's cinema

July 18 (6 pm): July 19 (10.30 am): Popeye and Son, A New Generation. Strongman sailor Popeye and girlfriend Olive Oyl marry and have a son, Popeye Junior. It is time to join them in their hectic summer activities. This feature will be shown at the British Council, Mansouriya. Admission free but reservations must be made. Tel: 2533204; 2533227.

## The Sheraton

Hunt Room: Daily buffet lunch in addition to a la carte; plus grilled specialties; a la carte dinner plus some specialties from Le Tarbouche; Duo Fantasy in attendance.

Wednesday/Thursday: Oriental buffet; live entertainment by the Lourdes Band and Arab singer Mohammad Baghdad.

The restaurant is open from 12.30 pm to 3.30 pm; and 8 to 12.30 am.

Riccardo Restaurant: will be open for dinner 6pm to 11pm with live entertainment by Regina and Frances.

Coffee Shop: breakfast, lunch and dinner; 6am to 0100am.

At the SAS Bisletto: Sunday/Wednesday — pasta night; Italian music.

Peacock Room: Chinese cuisine; lunch and dinner.

Al Boom: Kuwaiti experience; charcoal grilled food, plus mezzah buffet.

Clock snack bar — burgers, french fries, etc.

At the Plaza: Al Dallah Coffee Shop: international cuisine; open buffet plus menu.

Lolouwah Corner: snacks and refreshing summer drinks.

Marco Polo: Italian ambience and cuisine, particularly pasta.

At the International Failaka: situated on the 19th floor, overlooking the coastline, it offers international cuisine; live entertainment in the evenings. Closed on Fridays.

La Palma: offers buffet as well as a la carte. Family style brunch on Fridays.

Kei: offers Japanese dining in an oriental atmosphere.

La Palisserie: selection of snacks; pianist in the evenings.

Al Waha: ice cream promotion featuring different flavours, until August 1990.

At the Holiday Inn Al Ahmadi Coffee Shop: breakfast, lunch and dinner. Buffets featuring Continental and Oriental cuisine; emphasis on seafood.

Al Andalus Supper Club: Arabic style dining on Thursday nights; music by resident Arab band.

Friday Family Lunch: Disney Fantasy: children half price.

## At the Meridien

La Brasserie Thai Corner: Saturday night. Cowboy Night: Every Sunday, with live country music.

Chinese Corner: Monday night feature.

Greek Taverna: Mediterranean magic with housouki music.

Indonesian corner: on Wednesdays; food prepared in front of you.

Jazz Night: New Orleans atmosphere on Thursday night.

Friday: Oriental luncheon buffet; family day.

Versailles: Business lunch; and a la carte dinner.

At the Messilah Beach Al Muharikah: open around the clock; seafood promotion on Wednesdays, 7 pm; Fridays — Middle Eastern cuisine.

Al Jawharah: Thursday special — special menu; music by Rainbow Band.

Al Berdownah: BBQ on Thursday in beach-garden restaurant; Lebanese food.

## At Al Salam

July 12 — 19 Al Bender Coffee Shop: Arabic and Continental buffets, lunch and dinner; also a la carte; open 6 am to midnight.

Al Mawarid Open-Air Cafe: open from 6 pm to midnight.

Al Gancoul Grill Garden: open after 6 pm; grilled food.

Friday brunch: 12 noon to 3 pm, ship discovery tour, entertainment for children and cartoon-strip characters.

## Sport

All Filipino Scrabble Tournament

July 20: Filcheck have announced the all-female scrabble tournament, scheduled to start on Friday, July 20, will now be open to all Filipinos, male and female. Deadline for entries is July 19.

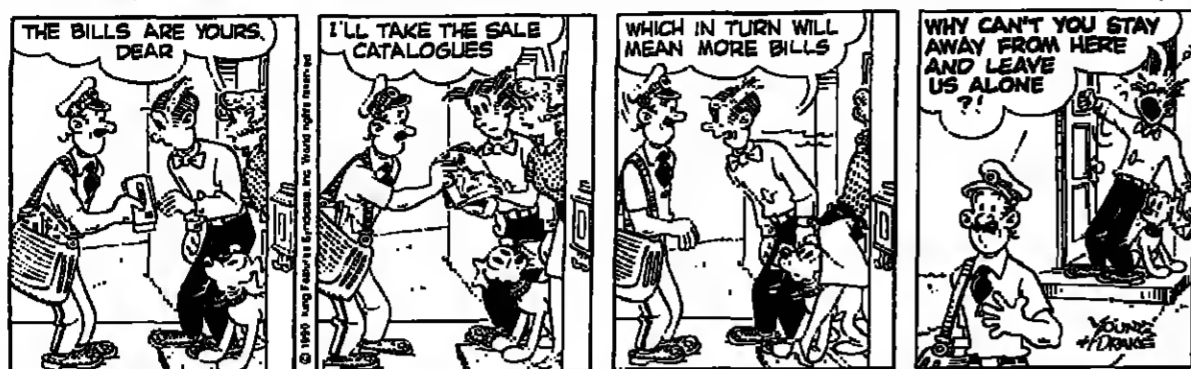
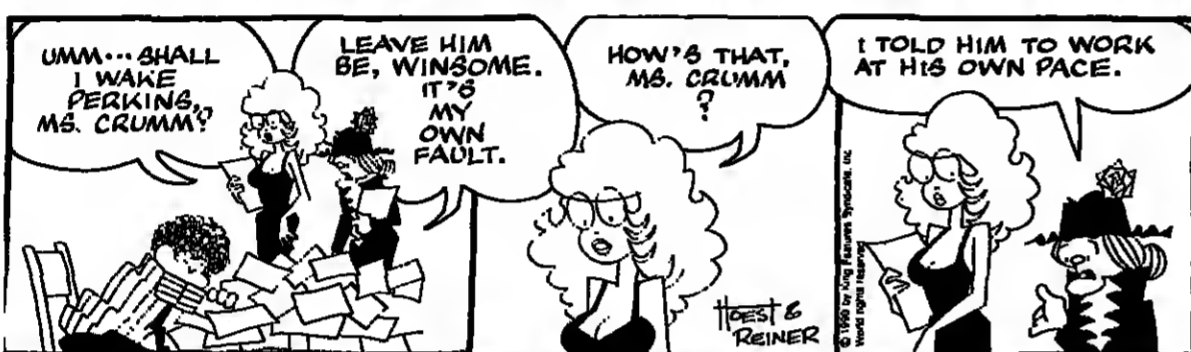
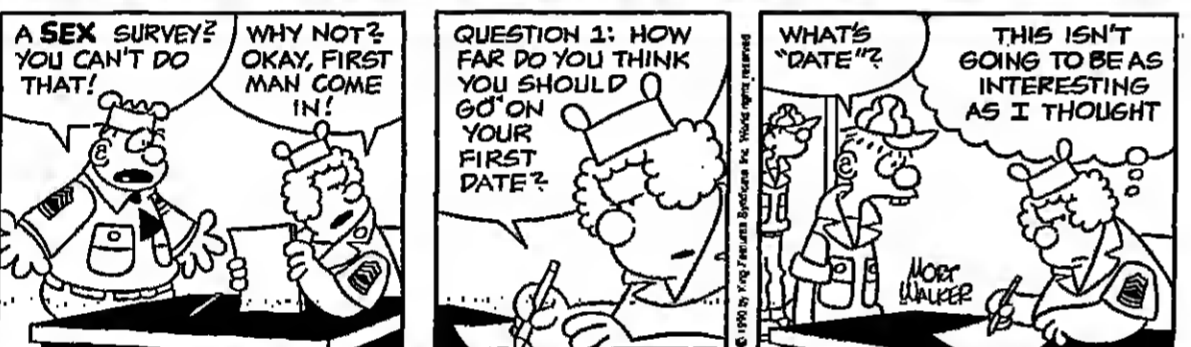
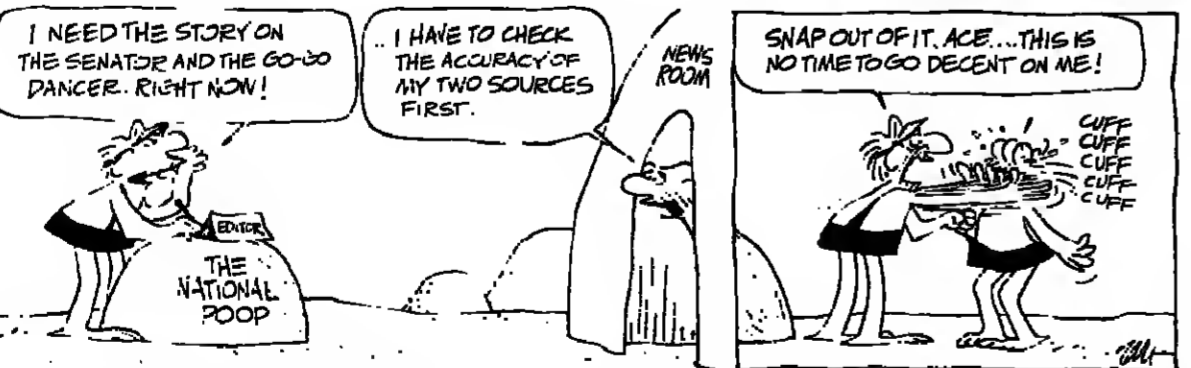
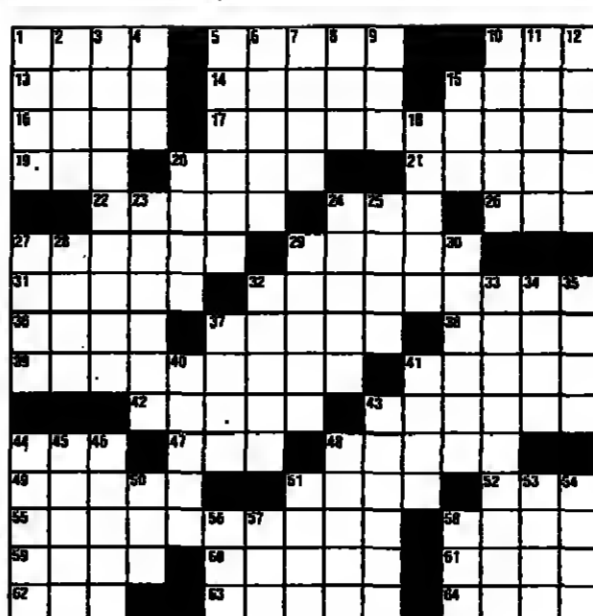
A total of 15 minutes is allocated for each player to finish the game; a player who exceeds the time limit will cease to play and his/her last score will be considered as the last score. Each player is required to use a chess clock to monitor time. The winner or the player with the highest score will earn 3 points; third one point and the last zero point. In case of a tie, the player with the highest score wins.

The champion and the two runners-up will each receive a trophy and valuable gift items. Registration forms are available at the Kabayan Restaurant. For details contact Edward/Liza 2402405

Education

British Council

The British Council is giving out information on how to get British qualifications through correspondence. Details about the names of colleges, dates and fees can be obtained from the Education Office, open from 9 am to 12.30 noon and 5 to 8 pm.

**BLONDIE** By Dean Young & Stan Drake**HAGAR THE HORRIBLE** By Dick Brown**AGATHA CRUMM** By Dick Brown**BEETLE BAILEY** By Dick Brown**THE WIZARD OF ID****ANDY CAPP****B.C.** — By Johnny Hart**HE-MAN** — By G. Forton & J. Shull**TODAY'S CROSSWORD**

- ACROSS**
- 1 Actress
  - 5 Steer clear of
  - 10 Gym ped
  - 13 Surmounting
  - 14 Actress Reed
  - 15 Story
  - 16 What we never have enough of
  - 17 "Laugh-in" co-host
  - 19 Flood curve
  - 20 Ye — Shoppe
  - 21 Legal claims
  - 22 After, in Paris
  - 24 Mouser
  - 26 Get it?
  - 27 Dressmakers
  - 29 Whittled
  - 31 Actress Helen
  - 32 Destroy belief in
  - 36 Deradical
  - 37 Kneivel
  - 38 Contours
  - 39 Trattoria
  - 39 Ships abandoned on the high seas
  - 41 Chip or cosm
  - 42 Peace symbols
  - 43 Necktie for the sentimental
  - 44 — "King" Cole
  - 47 Married
  - 48 Proofreader's mark
  - 49 Run-of-the-mill
  - 51 Sunrise
  - 52 Director Rainer
  - 55 Role for Eastwood
  - 58 Fashioned
  - 59 Singar Adams
  - 60 Fit to be tied
  - 61 Metal eater
  - 62 Congressman
- DOWN**
- 1 Have status
  - 2 "How sweet"
  - 3 "I want hero"
  - 4 Mimic
  - 5 Discombobulates
  - 6 Invalidates
  - 7 Formerly
  - 8 Printer's need
  - 9 Water barrier
  - 10 Husband and wife
  - 11 Skirt style
  - 12 Uplight
  - 15 Cycle lead-in
  - 18 Modify
  - 20 Hockey's Bobby and family
  - 23 Readied an orange
  - 24 Ferry Meson's work
  - 25 Rainbow
  - 27 Storage building
  - 28 Roof edge
  - 29 Two in a quart
  - 30 Gimmick
  - 32 Chopped
  - 33 Role for Warren Beatty
  - 34 Concerning
  - 35 Spree
  - 37 Walk the earth
  - 40 Humble
  - 41 Early in the day, to a poet
  - 43 District attorney
  - 44 Some paintings
  - 45 Playwright's device
  - 46 Italian city
  - 48 — blanch
  - 50 Hed lunch
  - 51 Small amount
  - 53 Garfield's dog
  - 54 Four-poster
  - 56 Successful song
  - 57 Coach
  - 58 West of the movies

**GOREN BRIDGE**BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF  
IN THE BLACK

East-West vulnerable. South deals.

**NORTH**  
♠ J 10 6 4  
♥ K 7 6 5  
♦ A 3  
♣ A J 7

**WEST**  
♠ K 7 3  
♥ 2  
♦ A Q 10 9 8 6 2  
♣ Q 4

**EAST**  
♠ 2  
♥ Q 10 8 3  
♦ K 5  
♣ 10 9 8 6 5 3

**SOUTH**  
♠ A Q 9 8 5  
♥ A J 9 4  
♦ J 7  
♣ K 2

The bidding:  
South West North East  
1 ♠ 3 ♦ 3 ♠ Pass  
4 ♠ Pass Pass Pass

Opening lead: Two of ♠

We have written often about life imitating art, and about bridge players finding that extra chance that spells the difference between victory and defeat. This theme cropped up recently in the Reisinger Team-of-Four Championship, New York's premiere team event.

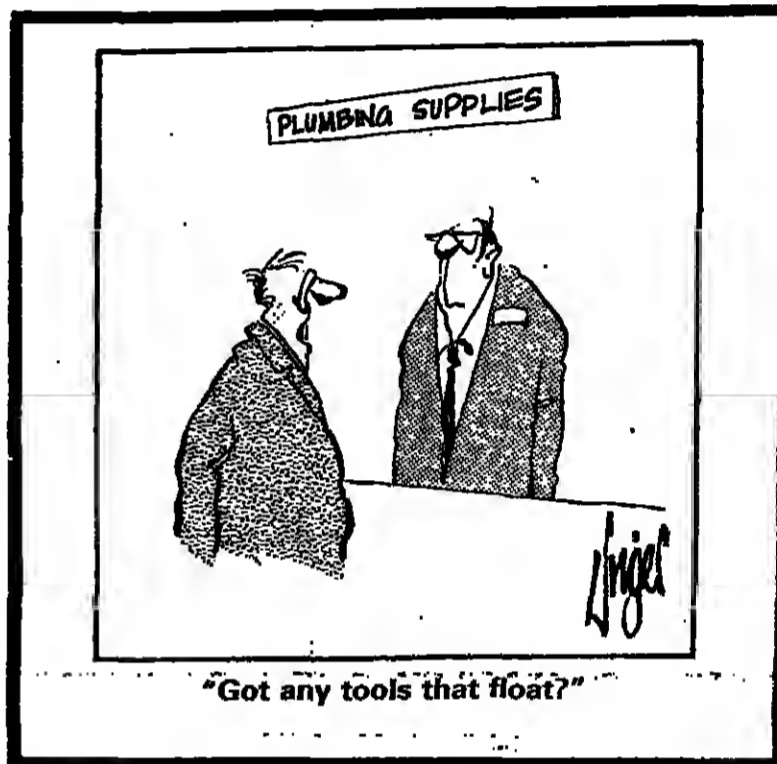
Most modern players treat a three-spade bid by North as competitive, not showing any great strength. They would consider the North hand as a borderline jump to

game on this auction, but would undoubtedly settle for three spades because of the doubleton diamond, the worst possible holding in the enemy suit. Under the circumstances, South's four spades was a bit of a stretch.

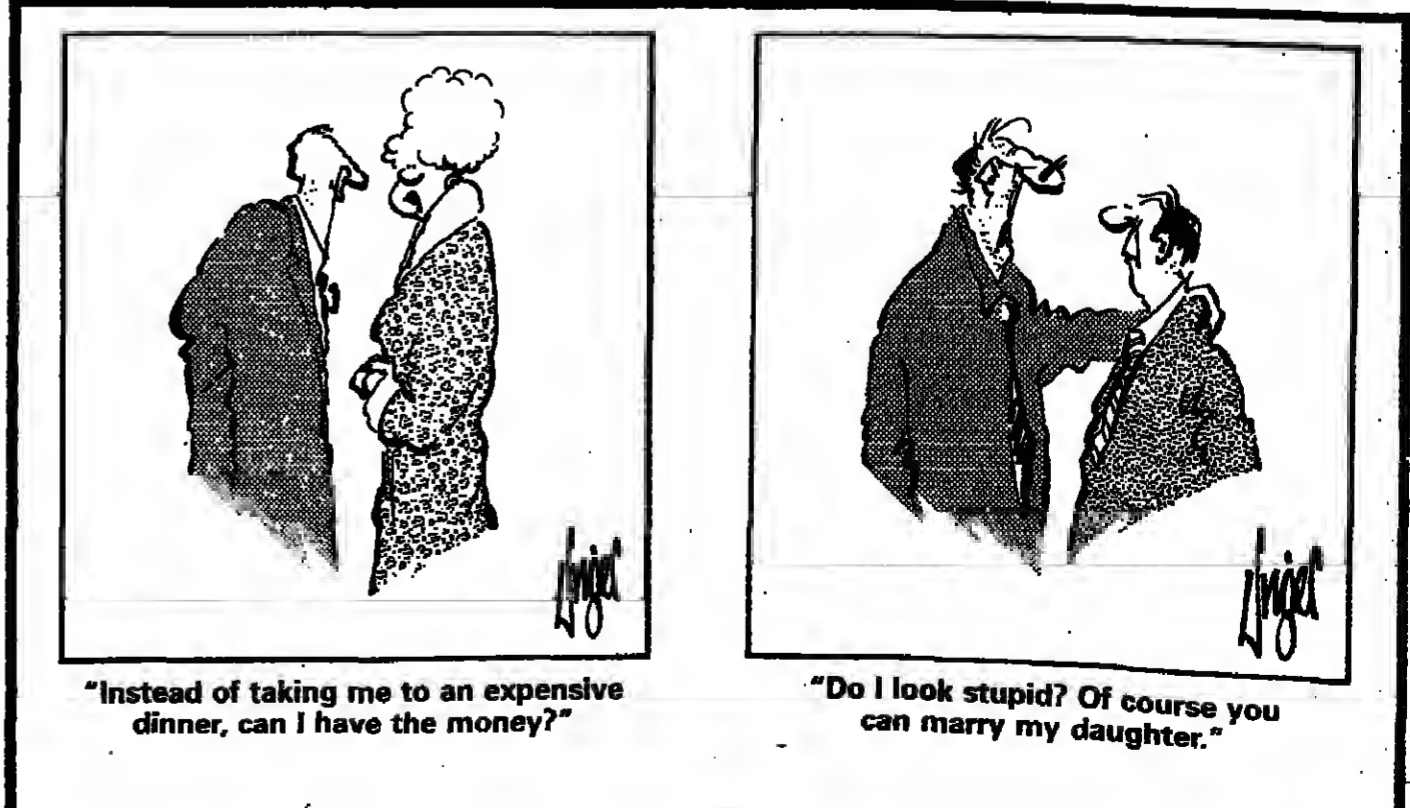
West elected to lead the two of hearts, an obvious singleton to everyone at the table. Declarer let that ride around to the closed hand, capturing East's queen with the ace. In an effort to stop a heart ruff, South cashed the ace of spades and continued the suit to West's king, as East discarded the three of clubs.

An underlead of the ace of diamonds put East on lead with the king, and the marked heart return permitted West to ruff and cash another diamond. Down one.

Declarer was unlucky to find West with three trumps to the king, but he should still have made the hand. After cashing the ace of trumps, it costs declarer nothing to play off the king and ace of clubs. If only low cards appear, declarer reverts to trumps and hopes for a favorable development. But when the queen of clubs drops, declarer can sluff a diamond on the jack of clubs. Even though West ruffs, the defenders can score no more than two trumps and a diamond.

**YOUR SIGN**

<p><b>Aries</b> March 21 - April 20</p> <p>Something you had expected will arrive but it will not be quite right. Do not get angry, just make allowances. Do all you can to rekindle somewhat flagging enthusiasm, avoid insisting on having your own way. Be less despondent.</p>	<p><b>Cancer</b> June 21 - July 20</p> <p>If someone mistakes you for someone else as they are likely to, do not feel offended. Do not ask for more than you well know you deserve. Avoid trying to pay less than true value, if you do you will not succeed. Be consistent.</p>	<p><b>Libra</b> Sept 23 - Oct 22</p> <p>Nothing is proceeding quite as fast as you would wish but you will be pleased with the ultimate results. Avoid spending as if money were no problem or else it will be a problem. Do not try to concern yourself with what is really none of your business. Be lenient.</p>	<p><b>Capricorn</b> Dec 21 - Jan 19</p> <p>You should not take any risks with your health, so avoid eating, drinking, smoking etc to excess. You are inclined to find complications where really there are none— refrain. A promise you have made will be hard to keep but keep it you must. Be responsible.</p>
<p><b>Taurus</b> April 21 - May 20</p> <p>Concentrate on what you are doing and do not allow yourself to be distracted. Avoid too many cups of coffee or tea. And do make sure you do not eat too much cake, pudding or chocolates. Be sincere.</p>	<p><b>Leo</b> July 21 - Aug 21</p> <p>You will not be the best of moods and should not spurn anything that might help to cheer you up. Do not think that everyone is against you, they are not any more than against anyone else. Expect to have a few failures as well as a few successes. Be resilient.</p>	<p><b>Scorpio</b> Oct 23 - Nov 22</p> <p>Show more sympathy for those of whom you are fond. A bit more commonsense and a little less conjecture is what is needed just now. Something you had not been expecting to proceed well will in fact do so. Be matter of fact.</p>	<p><b>Aquarius</b> Jan 20 - Feb 19</p> <p>A tendency to mistake what is important for what is not be combatted at all costs. You should not allow your emotions to get out of hand, control them without repressing them. Do not expect others to know what you mean if you do not make your meaning clear.</p>
<p><b>Gemini</b> May 21 - June 20</p> <p>Do your best to ensure that your partner does not feel neglected. Do check that you have the destination right, you will tend to send letters etc to the wrong address. Once you have made up your mind stick to it. Be responsive.</p>	<p><b>Virgo</b> Aug 23 - Sept 22</p> <p>If you tell others just what you think of them it will not be appreciated. So do not unless you really have good cause, which is not the case at present. A little more goodwill is what is needed right now. Be patient.</p>	<p><b>Sagittarius</b> Nov 23 - Dec 22</p> <p>You should try to ensure that you do not allow your concentration to drift from the subject in hand. Your lucky numbers are 6 and 22. Speak your mind, but only if you asked your opinion. Stop just hoping for the best, instead do your best. Be less obstinate.</p>	<p><b>Pisces</b> Feb 20 - March 20</p> <p>You should keep your eyes wide open, or else you will miss a good opportunity. Avoid acting on mere hearsay, check your facts. Nor should you act on a 'hunch' unless you have a means of checking it. Be moderate.</p>



Trends

# Heavenly advice at UK law firm

By Faith Mall

TEARFULLY wife Susan decided to end her marriage. She went to the lawyers to start a divorce... and came away eager to be reunited with her husband.

For, after Susan — that is not her real name — had seen solicitor Anthony Collins, he called in the firm's priest. And, after a chat with the only resident preacher in any law office, Susan realised she was still in love with husband Michael.

The unique experiment paid off in happiness. Solicitor Collins has lost a fee and gained a glow of satisfaction.

Now the Rev Eric Mulholland is called in to lend a sympathetic and strictly non-legal ear when clients arrive at the office in Birmingham with other troubles, too.

He helps to sort out everything from financial problems to hurtful hugging or even the trauma of moving house.

Solicitor Senior partner Anthony Collins told me: "It's not our job to make money out of people's hardship. We're just delighted to be able to solve a problem."

"We feel we have a moral responsibility to talk to anyone in a divorce situation. But when you're seeing thousands of clients every year, you don't get the time to sit and talk to each one."

"That is why we have Eric. In the long run it benefits us and the client."

"Everything that Eric discusses with the client is totally confidential. He never comes to us and says that so-and-so's marriage is on the rocks because her partner has been unfaithful."

"He's not involved in the legal side of the operation at all and doesn't even know on what grounds the client is suing for divorce."

"But we know that, if Eric thought a marriage had a real chance of being saved, he would tell us. And, in such circumstance, we would advise the couple to drop the case."

"Some clients have written thanking us for Eric's service. There's no doubt about it, he's great at his job."

Grey-haired Eric, the father of one, explained "Susan and Michael were my first success. Clients are offered my sympathetic ear when they come to seek

legal advice. As far as I know, this is the only law firm with a chaplain."

"Solicitors are often very busy, and many people just want a chance to talk their problems through in confidence. I am not here to ram religion down people's throats and, in many cases, I just listen to them."

"I can sometimes put problems into perspective or try to help them find the answers."

"I see these people either in the office or at their homes. Usually one session is enough. But, if they need more guidance, I'm willing to talk to them again."

Eric, who has been married to wife Susan for six years and has a five-month-old daughter, Allana, told me: "My background helps because it means that I am not looking at life through blinkers."

"In the case of marriage problems, I always think that there is a chance to get them back together again. If, by talking to one of the partners, I think that the marriage can work, then I do my best to reunite them."

And this is just what happened in the case of Susan and Michael. When Susan first came to the solicitors office, she really believed that there was no way of saving her five-year-old marriage.

The couple no longer talked to each other and spent very little time together.

Susan was once a top secretary. But she gave up her career to stay at home when she married Michael, a partner in an accountancy firm.

He was often away for days on business. And, when he returned home, he was too tired to do anything but asleep.

When he began to work at weekends, Susan came to the conclusion that the marriage was over. When she went to see her solicitor she said the marriage had broken down of irreconcilable differences.

But instead of starting divorce proceedings Mr Collin suggested that she should see Eric Mulholland the company chaplain, before making a final decision.

Reluctantly, Susan agreed. She spent one hour talking to the Reverend Eric Mulholland. It proved one of the most vital of her life. He listened while Susan poured out her heart to him. At the end



The Reverend Eric Mulholland.

of the session, she admitted that she was still very much in love with Michael, and was willing to give their marriage one more try.

Now Susan and Michael are back together. And, the last Eric Mulholland heard, they were about to celebrate their sixth wedding anniversary.

"I think she needed to talk to someone

before making her final decision. Susan hadn't really thought things through.

And, luckily for her, she took her solicitor's advice and came to see me. I think it saved the marriage," Eric told me.

The 47-year-old Free Church pastor, from Redditch near Birmingham, has counselled four divorce clients in the past six months.

## Indonesia revamps learning to meet needs

### Quality needed; 'skills bottleneck' feared

By Jon Miller

JAKARTA, Indonesia (WNL): Each day at high tide the groundwater comes up in this poor neighbourhood near Jakarta's Chinatown, filling the drainage ditches and turning vacant lots into swamps. While local buildings are sinking into the sodden earth, the three-year-old Pluit Technical School is aging well, thanks to an unusual floating design. A modern arch, the handsome brick and concrete structure built on a large, well-tended lot has avoided sagging and cracking.

The architectural key to this miracle is that the building moves with the changing tides. And that is a property that makes it, like the school it houses, an apt symbol for the sort of education Indonesia will need to meet one of the most pressing challenges posed by rapid economic growth.

Many economists and business analysts are concerned that this populous nation — fifth in the world with 180 million inhabitants — like fast-developing Thailand, will suffer a "skills bottleneck" if basic and secondary education cannot keep pace with economic expansion. Ethnically diverse Indonesia may be on the verge of an industrial boom, but only 85 per cent of workers have completed primary school (through grade 6).

Pluit is the only secondary school in Indonesia devoted to training students in cooling and refrigeration, an increasingly important industry in this vast equatorial archipelago of more than 13,000 islands. The school uses the most advanced equipment and promotes interactive, hands-on teaching. The dropout rate is negligible. With a student body made up of children from low-income families, Pluit is a rare exception to an educational truism: poor areas have poor schools.

But Pluit, like most of Indonesia's secondary schools, is private. And though it's not terribly expensive to attend — students pay about US \$12 a month in tuition fees — it is expensive to run. The Jakarta Christian Schools Association, which owns this and 23 other schools in the capital city, uses revenues from a host of "sideline" businesses — including the construction company that built the school — to cover the shortfall between student fees and operating costs.

The Indonesian government, faced with the prospect of opening thousands of junior (grades 7, 8 and 9) and senior (grades 10, 11 and 12) high schools in areas that have only recently been given primary schools, is hardly in a position to provide the sort of quality education that well-established private schools can offer. Indeed, 45 years after Indonesia won its independence from the Dutch, it is only now beginning to build itself a public school system.

And that, admits Hasan Walinono, director-general for primary and secondary education, reveals a serious weakness in the country's "human infrastructure." Only about 50 per cent of Indonesia's teenagers are enrolled in secondary school. Although that figure represents a two to three-fold improvement over the past 20 years, it still threatens to cause major



Indonesian children are being taught to 'think for themselves' under a new system that hopes to introduce quality education.

problems when the economy, which has been growing steadily in recent years, begins to move up-market.

Officials and critics alike say that the government recognises the problem. The Ministry of Education, which made primary education compulsory in 1984, plans to institute free, mandatory junior-high-school education in 1994. In the meantime, it hopes to bring the proportion of children who are eligible to attend junior high up from 65 per cent to 84 per cent.

Walinono sees some reasons for optimism. First, there is a growing demand for schools, especially at the secondary level. "Ten years ago, some of our vocational schools had to conduct their entrance examinations two or three times in order to get enough people," he says. "But now, in many cases, for 200 or 300 seats there are 2,000 candidates." Still, vocational education, like secondary education in general, is in its infancy. Walinono points out that a Dutch colonial attitude favouring a broad, non-specialised education still persists among Indonesians. "A lot of us, especially in my generation and the generation before me,

to do in schools is follow general principles. But the workplace demands specialised knowledge, specialised skill." Siagian sees strong secondary and vocational education as essential to national development, but he warns that any school system is only as good as the student themselves. And so what is most important, he says, is that schools challenge students to think independently.

"At the heart of the concept of democracy is a thinking population," he notes. "People who can judge for themselves, people who can evaluate themselves and their leadership."

"Just look at the rigid (school) curriculum we all have to follow," he adds. "There's simply no time for discussion." Not known as an innovator in education, Indonesia did not recognise mathematics as a subject for study until 1975. And it was only last year that public universities gave in to a growing demand for a master's degree in business administration.

But in the past two decades universal basic education has been one of the country's most fiercely sought goals. In 1971 enrollment in primary school stood at 60 per cent; today it is 98 per cent. At the junior high school level, enrollment increased from 45 per cent to 73 per cent between 1971 and 1985.

"The expansion in quantitative terms has been phenomenal," says Mayling Oey-Gardiner, a demographer who advises the government on education policy. She calls the early 1980s "the golden years," marked by the furious building of schools and the hiring of teachers. "But the quality had to decline because of the very sudden expansion. No system could have handled it."

The Ministry of Education is acutely aware of the problem. Says Hasan Walinono, "We'd like to give more attention to developing, increasing, improving the quality of education. And at the same time we must keep trying to improve the welfare of our teachers, because we see that the welfare and the skills are two sides of the same coin." That means offering teachers pay increases based on merit, a controversial policy that will be put into action in 1991. It also means changing the hiring requirements so that all teachers will need to have more than a secondary-school education.

Oey-Gardiner, whose views on education policy often diverge from those of the government, thinks there may be a skills bottleneck in a few years and states flatly that "quality demands change." But she also acknowledges that the government is beginning to tackle structural problems, such as unqualified teachers, that impede progress.

Even a loud critic like Siagian admits that Indonesia's education programme has been, by and large, an "incredible success." "What this government is trying to do, and I'll grant you this much, is to do the best they can to provide what is best for Indonesia," he says. "But there's a growing sophistication in this country, and there's a growing hunger for information. And I think there's also a certain impatience with the pace of change."

"In essence, what education tries to do and what the job market needs are two different things," he says. "What you try

Quiz

## Are you a doormat or a dragon?

*It's the woman we are asking to take this revealing test. But men will find the answers of intriguing interest.*

*Do you get your own way by constant complaining? Or by an open declaration of war? Are your negotiating tactics fair, cool, tearful or terrible? In fact are you a nag, a mate or a doormat? Answer this quiz honestly, and it will help you find out....*

1. He comes home from the office two hours later than usual without warning or explanation. Do you say:

- a) "Hard day at work, darling?"
- b) "They don't really appreciate you?"
- c) "Why didn't you ring and let me know?"
- d) "I've been out of my mind with worry that you'd had an accident?"
- e) "Who was she?"

2. You ask him to put up a kitchen paper holder. A week later, nothing has happened. Do you:

- a) wait? You know how busy he is and how tired he gets.
- b) leave it on his pillow, along with a likely selection of tools and a book on home maintenance?
- c) remind him?
- d) give him a deadline after which all cooking and washing will stop
- e) give in and do it yourself?

3. He throws his dirty clothes on the bedroom or bathroom floor. Do you:

- a) pick them up and shut up?
- b) pick them up but ask him to use the basket provided?
- c) remind him he no longer has his mother to run around after him?
- d) put yours with them?
- e) just leave them there until they rot?

4. You feel the division of labour in your home leaves a lot to be desired. Do you:

- a) start a softening-up campaign. Mention it often, when any related subject crops up?
- b) call a family conference to discuss it?
- c) soften him up with wine and roses — or whatever else turns him on — before you bring it up?
- d) set out your demands clearly in a ten-point manifesto?
- e) forget it? You know from past experience nothing will change for long.

5. He forgets your wedding anniversary. Do you reciprocate with:

- a) tears?
- b) anger?
- c) indifference?
- d) coolness?
- e) pretence that you did, too?

6. He drinks too much at a wedding and becomes — or thinks he does — the life and soul of the party. Next morning, he feels like death. Are you:

- a) all tea, aspirin and sympathy?
- b) full of good cheer and song?
- c) unmoved?
- d) secretly pleased to see him suffering? It might teach him a lesson.
- e) bursting to let him know what you think about the way he showed you up?

7. During rows, do you refer to past quarrels:

- a) always?
- b) often?
- c) sometimes?
- d) rarely?
- e) never?

8. A friend of his has a heart attack and it sets him thinking. He announces a crash keep-fit campaign. Do you:

- a) persuade him to sit quietly and talk honestly to you about his fears?
- b) jecr at the sight of his new jogging or gym gear?
- c) suggest you join him?
- d) keep on at him to ease off because he could be doing more harm than good?
- e) ask him if he is up-to-date with the life insurance payments?



9. Your idea of a perfect holiday is all poolside and sunshine. His is a golf course. Do you:

- a) follow the sun?
- b) go for golf?
- c) go to different places?
- d) stay home?
- e) look for a resort that offers both?

10. He takes to his bed with a cold, the like of which, he says, has never been known to medical history. Do you:

- a) keep up a shuttle service of lemon, boney, and concern?
- b) come when he calls?
- c) come when he calls — but slowly and reluctantly?
- d) pretend he is not there?
- e) keep reminding him about your last bout of "flu and how you had no choice but to stay on your feet?"

11. He asks you to phone the office and make his excuses. You know there is nothing more wrong with him than the Monday morning blues. Do you:

- a) do it willingly for him?
- b) do it — after making it clear you don't approve?
- c) do it — at a price, like getting the lawn mown?
- d) do it — and keep reminding him all that that you did?
- e) tell him to do it himself?

12. He confides in you that he has a cough and is short of breath and is afraid he has caught Aids from a lavatory seat. Do you say:

- a) "All that is wrong is that you are an overweight and over-worried hypochondriac?"
- b) "You must go to the doctor to put your mind at rest?"
- c) "You must go to the doctor and find out?"
- d) "You cannot get Aids from a lavatory seat?"
- e) "So, you have been unfaithful?"

13. He keeps mentioning the name of a female colleague whose work he says he admires. Do you:

- a) cross-examine him about her other attributes?
- b) suggest he brings her home for dinner?
- c) engineer a chance to get to know her behind his back?
- d) say nothing but keep listening?
- e) tell him you think it is time he looked for another job?

14. Is his worst fault:

- a) his temper?
- b) his laziness?
- c) his lack of appreciation of what you do for him?
- d) the way he leaves the bathroom?
- e) not listening?

15. The garden is in urgent need of hard labour and all he wants to do is watch football on the box. Do you:

- a) dig it yourself?
- b) ask if he will help dig it?
- c) ask if he will dig it?
- d) tell him he will have to dig it?
- e) threaten the suspension of all indoor services until he digs it.

HOW TO SCORE

Select the answer you feel most closely describes what you would do in each case. Now award yourself points as follows:

	a	b	c	d	e
1.	0	0	1	2	3
2.	0	1	3	4	2
3.	0	3	4	2	1
4.	3	1	2	4	0
5.	3	4	2	1	0
6.	0	1	2	3	4
7.	4	3	2	1	0
8.	1	2	0	4	3
9.	4	0	3	2	1
10.	0	1	2	3	4
11.	0	1	2	3	4
12.	3	0	1	2	4
13.	3	1	2	0	4
14.	0	2	3	2	4
15.	0	1	2	3	4

WHAT YOUR SCORE MEANS

See which category your score puts you in:

0-19 You are a doormat. You let him walk all over you and wipe his boots and you just lie there waiting for more. There is no use complaining that he takes you for granted. You ask for it.

20-39 You do not nag. But you do not let your man walk all over you, either. You see yourself as his partner and equal rather than his servant. You are mature, adult. Your relationship is, too... And you know there is more than one way to get what you want...

40-50 You are a nag. The sort who gets women a bad name. And it doesn't often get you what you want either, does it? The trouble is nagging immunises the listener against really hearing.

What you need is to widen your repertoire. Perhaps you would like to start here. Study the mid-scoring answers. They will provide a few ideas for starters.



# ARAB TIMES Classifieds

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(AT4-53605-3)

## Shaw must terminate Italian contract: court

BOSTON, July 17, (AP) — The Boston Celtics won another round in their battle with Brian Shaw when a US Appeals court ruled in favour of the National Basketball Association team in a contract dispute with the guard.

The court in Boston yesterday affirmed a lower court decision that Shaw must terminate his contract with the Celtics.

saggero, an Italian team.

The agent for Shaw, who signed a five-year, \$6.2 million contract with the Celtics on Jan 26, sent the Celtics a letter on June 6 saying he intended to honour the second year of his contract with the Celtics.

US District Court Judge A. David Mazzone ruled June 27 that Shaw must

honour his Celtics contract and terminate the two-year, \$1.7 million deal he signed with the Italian team last August.

The Appeals Court heard arguments in the case last Wednesday, and agreed with Mazzone's decision in a ruling issued yesterday.

"We have examined the arbitration award, the District Court's determina-

tions, the briefs and the record. We conclude that the District Court's decision is lawful, and we affirm it," the Appeals Court ruled.

Shaw's attorney in Boston, Laura Carroll, said she needed to talk to Shaw to find out what he wants to do next.

Shaw had refused to comply with Mazzone's order.

## Lewis & Co. miss relay record

### Christie suffers 5th defeat in fortnight



Engeng won the 800 metres

BARCELONA, Spain, July 17, (Reuters) — Carl Lewis and his Saota Monica Track Club colleagues missed the world record by just 0.09 seconds in winning the 4x100 metres relay at an international athletics meeting yesterday.

But a high-profile men's 200 metres race produced disappointing times with Texan Michael Johnson beating fellow-American Leroy Burrell in 20.07 seconds.

The meeting's organisers were reported to have lured Johnson, the fastest man over 200 metres this year, away from the Bisset Games with a \$60,000 cash incentive and the promise of a \$50,000 bonus for him or Burrell if they broke the world record.

But the pair failed to challenge Italian Pietro Mennea's 11-year-old world record of 19.72 seconds. Burrell's disappointment at losing the 200 metres was tempered by his share in the relay victory with Lewis, Floyd Heard and Mark Witherspoon.

Their time of 37.94 came close to the world record of 37.83 set by the United States at the Los Angeles Olympics, where Lewis was again anchor man.

Johnson was happy with his victory in the sweltering heat and impressed with the track at Barcelona's Montjuich stadium where the athletics events at the 1992 Olympics will be held.

"I felt relaxed and got what I wanted to achieve — a win," said Johnson. "It's a good track and I feel on a good day I could run under 20 seconds here."

The 22-year-old marketing student said he was now heading home and would run his next race at the Goodwill Games in Seattle which open on Friday.

Lewis recorded his 63rd consecutive long jump win with a leap of 8.51 metres — well clear of second-placed Robert Emmiyan. American Mike Marsh surprised himself by winning the 100 metres ahead of a strong field including compatriots Dennis Mitchell and Mark Witherspoon and former world record holder Calvin Smith.

"I didn't realise I had won until I saw the video screen," he said after bettering his season's best time.

Kenya's Paul Ereng and Nixon Kiprotich fought an engrossing duel in the 800 metres, ending with a victory to Olympic cham-

pion Ereng.

In Belfast, Britain's Olympic silver medalist Linford Christie suffered his fifth 100 metres defeat in a fortnight yesterday when he finished second to Nigerian Olusade Adeniken at an international athletics meeting.

Adeniken clocked 10.17 seconds to beat the European champion by 0.02 of a second.

Siege Backley's bid to recapture his world javelin record less than 48 hours after losing it to Czechoslovak Jan Zelezný was scuppered by a combination of fatigue and psychological let-down.

Backley, who won the competition with an 84.2 metre throw, said afterwards: "I threw flat out but I was very tired physically and mentally."

"I was quite flat coming off such a great competition in Oslo and now I need a few days rest to be fresh for Zelezný on Friday."

Backley, who meets Zelezný at the London grand prix on Friday, said he was looking forward to the return clash.

"Beating him would mean a lot to me. Actually, I was more upset that I got beaten than losing the record on Saturday," he said.



Lewis in action during the long jump. (Reuters wirephoto)

## Top German showjumper quits sport

MUEHLEN, West Germany, July 17, (Reuters) — Former top showjumper Paul Schockemoehle said yesterday he was closing his world-famous stables, selling his horses and quitting as a trainer after being accused of treating the animals cruelly.

Schockemoehle was one of the world's most successful showjumpers in the early 1980s, winning the European Championships three times in a row. He had also won silver with the West German team at the 1976 Olympics in Canada.

Prosecutors are investigating charges against him by an animal protection group that he regularly mistreated his horses during training by hitting their hooves with wooden bars to force them to jump higher.

Schockemoehle, 45, said in a statement from his stables in Muehlen, northern West Germany, that he was breaking off all involvement with showjumping and closing his stables and training centre for health reasons and "in the interests of the sport."

Schockemoehle, who rode to fame on his horse Delster — which was even more successful than him — retired from competition last year.

With 600 horses, he was the biggest private horse breeder in the world and dominated the trade in West Germany together with his brother Alwin, who also rode and won gold at the 1976 Olympics.

## Australia win

GREYMOUTH, New Zealand, July 17, (AP) — Australia took out the frustrations of previous tour losses to New Zealand club teams by defeating West Coast-Buller 62-0 in a rugby union match today.

Ian Williams, John Fleet, Paul Cornish and Sam Scott-Young scored two tries each to lead Australia.

## 'I tried something new in French GP'

By Alain Prost  
Formula One driver

FROM Mexico I was happy to be back at the Paul Ricard circuit in the south of France near Marseilles. On Friday morning I was very much looking forward to the new engine development carried out by Nigel Mansell at Silverstone. The new Ferrari engine — almost immediately blew up because of piston damage, but proved to be quite a bomb! That's why Cesare Fiorio decided to field four cars in the French Grand Prix: two racing cars with Mexico engines and two qualifying cars equipped with the new V-12.

I started qualifications with racing set-ups and at the end of the session had a quick run at the wheel of the new car. At the end of the session, I was third on the grid 4/10th second behind Mansell and was quite happy. I had no clear lap, Capelli and Modena baulking me but I was confident for Saturday's session.

With the qualifying car, I noticed up the second best lap in the session but the track was overheated by the sun and Mansell's time was therefore out of reach. I improved but dropped 4th on the grid. Gerhard Berger in his McLaren managing to push from 5th to 2nd place. This did not worry me. In Mexico I was in the middle of the grid and you know what happened!

Sunday morning, with my regular car, I scored the best time in the warm-up in front of Mansell. Good top speed, good handling with full tank, good semi soft tyres. Everything was fine!

In the race things did not start too well, however, because the left rear tyre deteriorated after the pit stop, producing very uncomfortable vibrations when I was trying to catch up Ivan



Alain Prost

Capelli, the new leader in his March. Even worse, my engine started cutting out at full throttle and in gear changes. I was about to content myself with the six points for the second placing but I had a sudden fit of national pride. In the French Grand Prix, in front of my best fans, I had to do something!

Then Capelli also experienced engine problems. I tried to overtake him regularly in the Beausset curve — one of the two places where you may overtake at Ricard. No way! Then I feinted him diving inside of the curve. No way again, although he was very correct. Ultimately, I tried something new: diving very quickly inside of the curve just at the outset of the very fast bend of Signes in order to force him to keep to the outside and it worked!

It was high time for the checkered flag was only three laps ahead.

This was my 5th win in the French Grand Prix, the 42nd in my 160 GPs career and I had the tremendous pleasure to provide Ferrari with its 100th success in Grand Prix racing!

## Soviets arrive in Seattle

SEATTLE, July 17, (AP) — The first plane carrying Soviet athletes for the Goodwill Games has arrived while officials fine-tune security precautions for the two-week event and tried not to be too overbearing.

The first Aeroflot plane landed shortly before 1000 GMT today.

The first plane carried 129 athletes, a parachutist who will participate in Saturday's opening ceremonies, a teen-ager bound for American medical treatment and his mother. Games spokesman Steve Smith said.

The arrival of a second plane, originally expected last night, had been postponed until late this morning, Smith said. That plane was carrying 132 athletes, plus 55 Soviet visitors who were to be hosted in local homes. The athletes will stay at an athletes' village at the University of Washington.

Both planes were flying from Moscow via Murmansk, Smith said.

All told, more than 2,000 Soviet athletes, citizens and several Soviet officials are expected to come to Seattle on 29 airliner charters for the Olympic-style Games, which begin Friday and run through Aug 5.

Port of Seattle police insisted extra security at airport for the Games. But captain John Olman said officials were trying to keep it as low-key as possible.

The Soviets will ride an airport subway and claim their baggage like all other passengers, although athletes will then be diverted into a separate, secured building next to the main terminal, Olman said.

"There will be quite a few plainclothes as well as uniformed officers in the area," he said. "We're trying to provide as good a balance as possible in providing security and not being overbearing."

"We really want them to see America and not an armed curfew camp."

In the past few weeks police also acquired a 200-pound, 40,000 robot called the Androsark VI, capable of handling bombs and wielding a laser-guided 12-gauge shotgun, a water cannon and video cameras.

The Games are expected to bring 2,500 athletes from 50 countries and an estimated 1,000 out-of-state visitors to Washington.

The Games, first held in Moscow in 1986 as the brainchild of television entrepreneur Ted Turner, will feature 21 events.

## Series put back

NEW YORK, July 17, (AP) — The world series will start Tuesday, October 16th, three days later than originally scheduled, in the home park of the National League champion.

## Wynne takes Cubs past Padres

CHICAGO, July 17, (AP) — Marvell Wynne doubled home two runs and pitcher Mike Harkey helped his own cause with an RBI single as the Chicago Cubs held off the San Diego Padres for a 4-3 victory in a Major League game.

Wynne doubled in two first-inning runs off Eric show (1-7) and Harkey added a run-scoring single in the second. Andre Dawson had a sacrifice fly in the fifth.

Harkey (7-4) allowed six hits and two runs in six-plus innings. Mitch Williams, the Cubs' fourth pitcher, struck out Roberto Alomar to end the game for his 10th save.

Dodgers 5, Cardinals 2  
Mike Scioscia's two-run double capped a four-run sixth inning that was set up by centre fielder Willie McGee's error as Los Angeles defeated the sagging Cardinals.

McGee, a three-time Gold Glove winner, let Kirk Gibson's fly ball to drop between him and right fielder Craig Wilson with one out in the sixth, allowing Lenny Harris to score the tie-breaking run. Hubie Brooks added an RBI double and Scioscia doubled in two more runs off Bob Tewksbury (4-2).

Rookie Terry Wells (1-1) gave up four hits in 6 1-3 innings for

his first Major League victory. Wells retired the first 10 batters and struck out three while walking three. Jay Howell, the third Los Angeles pitcher, finished for his seventh save.

Reds 8, Expos 3  
Eric Davis hit a Grand Slam in the sixth inning, the first of four Cincinnati home runs, as the Reds rallied for an 8-3 victory over the visiting Montreal Expos last night.

Davis lined a full-count pitch from Zane Smith (5-7) over the left-field wall, wiping out a 3-0 deficit.

"In that situation it's real special because it puts us up," Davis said of his fifth career Grand Slam. "It depends upon when you get them."

Joe Oliver had a solo homer and Barry Larkin added a two-run shot in the seventh off Smith, who has been tripped up by homers lately. Sixteen of the 23 runs he has allowed in his last seven starts have scored on home runs.

Astros 4, Mets 1  
Mark Portugal allowed three hits in 6 2-3 innings for his first career victory over New York as the Astros beat the suddenly slumping Mets.

The loss was the fourth in five games for the Mets, who entered



Andre Dawson

the All-Star break as the hottest team in the National League. They remained two games behind NL east-leading Pittsburgh, which lost to San Francisco after getting only three hits for the second straight day.

Craig Biggio tripped in a run and scored on Franklin Stubbs' groundout in the second inning as the Astros beat Bob Ojeda (4-4).

## Olazabal pessimistic about chances in British Open

ST ANDREWS, Scotland, July 17, (Reuters) — At 24 years old and ranked third in the world, Spanish golfer Jose Maria Olazabal should be ready to mount a strong challenge for his first major title at the British Open this week.

Instead, he said yesterday: "My game has gone. It has broken down. The way I am playing, I have no realistic chance here."

Olazabal has emerged from the shadow of compatriot Seve Ballesteros over the past year and is now ranked two places higher in the world.

For most of this year, he has been far superior. While Ballesteros has won only once and stands 11th on the European money list, Olazabal has a pair of victories to his credit and is third in the money list.

Suddenly, however, his game has deserted him.

"After he won the Irish Open three weeks ago for his sixth top six finish in as many European events, Olazabal took two weeks off."

"After the Irish Open, I rated my chances of winning here very high, but not now," he said. "Maybe I shouldn't take holidays."

"I have been taking weeks off for a few years and usually I get my swing back in a few days."

Stand  
"Now I do not know what is going on. I stand to the ball, feel I am aiming right, but when I swing the club I don't know where the ball is going to go."

Last week in the Scottish Open at Gleneagles, Olazabal missed the halfway cut. "I played terribly. Then I spent Friday and

Saturday practising. But it didn't improve."

"I was working hard today and I'll keep working hard the next two days. From the tee, the ball is going right, but with the irons it is going right and left."

"I am certainly not hitting it to the flag."

Olazabal, who was the top scorer in Europe's Ryder Cup draw with the United States last year when he won 4 1/2 points out of five, said he has never played better than during his good stretch this year.

"I was really playing great those weeks, since the Benson and Hedges International which I won. Every week I played well and it would have been difficult to hit the ball better than that."

"In a professional career it is difficult to maintain that," he said. "You have ups and downs and maybe I am having one of those downs now. Hopefully it won't last."

Ballesteros chases his fourth British Open golf title this week on the course where six years ago he hit the greatest shot of his life.

The shot that brought him victory on the fabled Old Course at St Andrews in 1984 was a six iron from the rough over the deep pot bunker at the "Road Hole" 17th, on to the narrow green 25 feet from the pin.

From there he got down in two putts for a par four, his first there in four rounds that week, at a hole considered to be the toughest par four in the world.

Then he collected a birdie three at the 18th while behind him his closest rival, American Tom Watson, shot a bogey five at the 17th. Ballesteros won by two shots.



Olazabal, not confident

Yesterday after his first practice round for the start of this year's Open on Thursday, Ballesteros recalled the shot.

"The more I look at it the more impressed I get myself," he said with a smile. "If you look closely where I was and how much room there was on the green, it doesn't look possible."

"I think, given the circumstances, it was my greatest shot. No question about it."

Ballesteros went on to win a third British Open in 1988 at Royal Lytham, where he won his first in 1979, to go with his two US Masters titles in 1980 and 1983.

He was clear which Open meant most to him. "To win the Open is special, to win it at St Andrews is something very few people have a good fortune to achieve. I am very pleased to be one of them."

Ballesteros, 33, has had a disappointing year with just one victory, at the Balearic Open in March. He is 11th on the



Ballesteros: recalls best shot

European money list.

He was once ranked number one in the world. This year he has dropped to fifth.

"This year has been very much the same as 1984 and 1988 — not very good. But there is still half a year to go and anything can happen."

"One week can change things around 100 per cent. There is nothing wrong with my game, it is a matter of confidence, that's all," he said.

Ballesteros was asked if he would play to the left rough at the 17th here again. "Now I'd hit it in the fairway. I'm a better player now," he grinned.

In a more serious vein, he said that how he played the hole would depend on how the wind was blowing.

"If there is no wind, I'll try to play as far right as possible because that leaves a better shot to the green. If the wind is left to right, I'd hit left and let the wind bring the ball back in to the centre."

"If the wind is against you, I think you have to play it as a par five. If you get four, you feel you have made a birdie," he said.

Watson has taken a radical step towards overturning his defeat by Ballesteros six years.

When the tournament returns to the Old Course on Thursday his caddy will be American Nick de Paul, who caddied for the Spaniard in 1984.

"I started working with Nick in the Western Open a few weeks ago — the only time I have been in a position to win this year," the 40-year-old Watson said yesterday.

"Seve never knocked it into a fairway bunker in four days in

1984. Maybe that says something for Nick."

Ballesteros beat Watson then by getting a par four on the famous "Road Hole" 17th. The American took a bogey five after hitting his second shot up against the stone wall behind the green.

Watson, who has won five British Open titles, rejected the suggestion frequently made that one shot set him on a downward slide as a golfer.

"That makes a good story. It just isn't true," he said.

He explained that he hit a two-iron second shot on that occasion because his drive finished on an upslope.

"I could not keep the ball low off that lie," he said. "On a flat lie I would probably have used a three-iron."

"It was a bad shot. I pushed it 20 yards right of the target. I played a risky shot but I did not have any option," he said.

Watson has won at the other four Open venues in Scotland — Carnoustie, Turnberry, Troon and Muirfield. He also won at Royal Birkdale in England in 1983, his last Open success. At Andrews glory has escaped him.

Victory would tie Watson with the all-time record of six set by Harry Vardon in 1914.

Last year at Troon, he had a chance but his putting let him down on the final day and he finished two shots away from the three-man playoff won by American Mark Calcavecchia.

"A sixth Open? It does not prey on my mind. But it would be nice," he said.

The sons of famous fathers had mixed fortunes in final qualifying yesterday for the British Open.

## SPORTS

## Teltscher triumphs on return

WASHINGTON, July 17. (UPI) While the top players drew hives in the opening round of the Sovran Bank Classic yesterday, Eliot Teltscher began his lightly publicised comeback from a two-year retirement with a victory over Jeff Tarango.

Teltscher, one of the latest professional athletes to attempt a rebirth, defeated his friend Tarango 6-4, 4-6, 6-3 on the opening day of the \$550,000 tournament. He faces second seed Brad Gilbert in the second round.

Teltscher, 31, is a 10-time tournament winner and a four-time US Davis Cup team member. But he left the Tour in July 1988 because of injuries and lack of desire.

"I just didn't want to play, and I'd end up losing," he said. "I became very complacent about the whole thing."

Arm and shoulder problems also contributed to Teltscher's decision. But weightlifting helped improve his shoulder and the time off helped him regain his desire.

"Lyle Alzado is coming back and Sugar Ray Leonard comes back every few years," Teltscher joked. "I don't know how I fit into the comeback scenario, but I'd like to see how it goes... maybe after tomorrow, I won't want to play again."

Teltscher decided to return a few months ago, but had trouble gaining wild-card entry into a number of events. When the Sovran organisers extended him an invitation, Teltscher came to Washington — without fanfare — to jumpstart his career.

During his first match back, the manual scoreboards on each side of the stadium court spelled his name "Teltscher."

After trading the first two sets, Teltscher broke Tarango's serve to take a 5-3 third-set lead, and then served out for the match.

Tarango, 21, is a frequent hitting partner of Teltscher's and gained much of his tennis knowledge from Teltscher's father.

**Train**  
"It was kind of weird playing him," Tarango said. "He's been able to train like a top 10 player would train, not having to play every week."

Other winners yesterday included India's Ramesh Krishna and American Paul Chamberlin.

In the night matches, Dan Goldie had little trouble with West Germany's Patrick Kuhn, 6-2, 6-2, and Australia's Mark Woodforde rallied to defeat Paul Annacone, 6-7, 6-3, 6-2.

The field in the 56-player tournament is the best in years, with Andre Agassi, John McEnroe, Michael Chang, Tim Mayotte and Gilbert entered. Mayotte won last year's tournament with a three-set win over Gilbert.

McEnroe was invited to the field as a wild card after Jimmy Connors and Aaron Krickstein pulled out last week. Neither he nor any of the other Marquee players are expected to play before Wednesday.

## Nordin dropped

STOCKHOLM, July 17. (Reuters) The Swedish Football Association decided not to renew the contract of national team manager Olle Nordin on Tuesday after Sweden's dismal performance in the World Cup finals in Italy last month.

Despite winning their qualifying group in fine style, Sweden lost each of their three first-round games 2-1, to Brazil, Scotland and Costa Rica. Swedish media called it a fiasco, and called for Nordin to quit.

## Magers holds on to beat Golarsa in opener

NEWPORT, Rhode Island, July 17. (AP) No. 5 seed Gretchen Magers fought off seven set points in a marathon second-set tiebreaker Monday to defeat Laura Golarsa of Italy, 6-4, 7-6 (16-14), in the first round of a \$225,000 women's tennis tournament.

Magers was one of four seeds who played on a breezy opening day in this lone American stop on grass on the women's professional tour.

**Turned**  
No. 7 Anne Smith breezed past Terry Phelps, 6-2, 6-3, and Meredith McGrath turned back No. 8 Dinky van Rensburg, 6-4, 6-4.

Top seed Arantxa Sanchez Vicario of Spain, ranked 7th in the world, was to play her first-round match today against Ginger Helgeson.

## Parreira turns down offer to extend UAE contract

ABU DHABI, United Arab Emirates, July 17. (AP) Carlos Alberto Parreira of Brazil, who trained the national soccer squad for its World Cup debut, has turned down extending his contract, the Football Association announced today.

Parreira cited personal reasons for not staying on.

He is reported to be one of the front-runners to take over as Brazil's national coach following the resignation of Sebastiao Lazaroni.

The association was reported to have paid Parreira \$100,000 for a three-month contract in April to sharpen up the United Arab Emirates team, all amateurs, after they qualified for the

World Cup finals played last month.

The team's two previous coaches, Mario Zagalo of Brazil and Bernard Blaut of Poland, were either sacked or quit in the runup to the finals.

The UAE lost all three first round games in Group D to West Germany, the eventual champions, Yugoslavia and Colombia.

But the squad, and Parreira, were hailed as heroes when they returned home. The player who scored the country's first goal in the finals, Khalid Ismail, was promised a Rolls Royce by a local businessman.

Parreira has coached the Kuwaiti and Saudi Arabian national teams and trained the UAE team between 1984

and 1988.

The UAE Football Association was reported to be considering bringing back foreign professionals into the National League and has appointed a committee to study the proposal.

There are no foreign professionals playing in the country at present.

## India beat Derbyshire

## Tendulkar slams century



Tendulkar

CHESTERFIELD, England, July 17. (Reuters) India's 17-year-old prodigy Sachin Tendulkar pulled West Indian fast bowler Ian Bishop for a huge six to reach his century and clinch victory in the one-day cricket match against Derbyshire on Monday.

Tendulkar scored 105 not out in India's 239 for eight off 54.4 overs after Derbyshire had reached 235 for six from their 55 overs.

He hit two sixes and six fours in his 149-ball innings and was never flustered although wickets fell regularly at the other end.

"It was quite simply an astonishing innings," Derbyshire captain Kim Barnett said. "Even the great players in the game would have been proud of that."

**Scoreboard**  
Derbyshire innings  
K. Barnett c Sidhu b Kapil Dev 115  
P. Bowler b Raju 59  
J. Morris c sub b Kapil Dev 37  
B. Roberts c Azharuddin b Kapil Dev 8  
C. Adams run out 0  
S. Goldsmith run out 3  
K. Krikken not out 0  
Extras (lb-7 w-4 nb-2) 13

Total (for six wickets 55 overs) 235  
Fall of wickets: 1-137 2-208 3-223 4-224 5-235 6-235  
Did not bat: G. Millar, I. Bishop, S. Bassa, O. Mortensen.  
Bowling: Kapil Dev 11-1-76-3, Prabhakar 11-2-29-0, Sharma 11-0-51-0, Kumble 11-1-26-0, Raju 11-0-46-1.

India  
N. Sidhu lbw b Bishop 0  
W. Raman b Bassa 17  
S. Tendulkar not out 105  
M. Azharuddin lbw b Miller 7

Kapil Dev c Barnett b Mortensen 31  
M. Prabhakar run out 1  
K. Mora c Barnett b Miller 6  
D. Vengsarkar st Krikken b Miller 28  
V. Raju c Roberts b Miller 1  
S. Sharma not out 8  
Extras (lb-2 w-17 nb-16) 35

Total (for eight wickets 54.4 overs) 239  
Fall of wickets: 1-5 2-59 3-80 4-61 5-144 6-210 7-210 8-212.  
Did not bat: A. Kumble.

Bowling: Mortensen 11-1-31-1, Bishop 11-2-44-1, Bassa 11-0-45-1, 10-4-71-0, Miller 11-0-46-4.  
Result: India won by two wickets.

## LeMond reduces lead

LUZ ARDIDEN, France, July 17. (Agencies) American Greg LeMond moved to within five seconds of the overall lead in the Tour de France after making a spectacular surge in the final climb of today's 205-kilometre (134 miles) stage from Blagnac to Luz Ardiden.

LeMond placed second in the stage, six seconds behind stage winner Miguel Indurain of Spain, who finished in an unofficial time of seven hours, four minutes, 38 seconds.

Overall leader Claudio Chiappucci of Italy finished at 3:24 from Indurain, keeping the yellow jersey with a lead of five seconds, according to an unofficial timekeeper's watch.

The stage from Blagnac was expected to be the setting for 1988 Tour winner Pedro Delgado to put on his usual devastating display in the Pyrenees.

On the next pass, the 2,114-metre Col du Tourmalet which is the highest point of the Tour, Chiappucci's group led the LeMond-Delgado peloton by more than two minutes.

It was LeMond who decided to put an end to the Italian's fun and games. He attacked four kms from the top and was followed by Delgado, Indurain and a few other riders.

They joined Chiappucci's group in the valley at St Sauveur with the stage perfectly set for a showdown on the final 14-km ascent to Luz Ardiden.

LeMond attacked again twice but the apparently indefatigable Chiappucci countered to move into the lead both times.

Seven kms from the top, Fabio Parra of Colombia made a break and the alert and astute LeMond was immediately behind him. This time Chiappucci had no res-



LeMond (right), Delgado (left) and Indurain during the stage. (Reuters wire-photo)

ponse and, more surprisingly, not bad Delgado.

**Placings**  
Leading overall placings after 16 stages:  
1. Claudio Chiappucci (Italy) 69 hours 27 minutes 50 seconds  
2. Greg LeMond (US) five seconds behind  
3. Pedro Delgado (Spain) 3:42  
4. Eric Brukink (Netherlands) 3:49  
5. Marino Lejarreta (Spain) 5:29  
6. Gianni Bugno (Italy) 7:48  
7. Eduardo Chozas (Spain) 7:49  
8. Claud Criquelion (Belgium) 8:40

9. Andy Hampsten (US) 9:34  
10. Ronan Pensec (France) 11:12  
11. Fabio Parra (Colombia) 11:30  
12. Raul Alcala (Mexico) 11:48  
13. Miguel Indurain (Spain) 13:09  
14. Fabrice Philipot (France) 13:33  
15. Gilles Delion (France) 14:58  
16. Pello Ruiz Cabestany (Spain) 15:44  
17. William Palacio (Colombia) 17:03  
18. Thierry Claveyrolat (France) 17:26  
19. Roberto Conti (Italy) 18:03  
20. Eric Boyer (France) 18:46

## I won't play in France, says Milla

BRUSSELS, July 17. (Reuters) Roger Milla, the 38-year-old hero of Cameroon's World Cup team, says he wants to play soccer professionally again but would never return to France.

"I don't want to play with the French any more. All through my career they have exploited me," the Belgian daily newspaper *La Libre Belgique* quoted him as saying today.

"They never showed me the least respect. I had to wait until the outcome of the World Cup before I was invited to appear on French television, last Sunday. It's disgusting," he said.

Milla, whose four goals helped Cameroon become the first African team to reach the World Cup quarter-finals, played with five French clubs up to the end of the 1988-89 season.

He then went into semi-retirement and played with amateur club St Pierre on the French Indian Ocean island of La Reunion.

His surprising outburst went against his remarks in Italy in which he said he would be happy to play in France again.

"If someone in France wants me, I'll be glad to offer my services," he had told reporters in Bari last month.

Milla added to confusion surrounding his future by telling the newspaper he was keen to join a Belgian club.



Jeff Thomson: to sort out bickering

## Thomson named as Queensland coach

BRISBANE, Australia, July 17. (Reuters) Former Australian fast bowler Jeff Thomson and recently retired leg spinner Trevor Hohns were named coach and captain of Queensland today as the state launched another desperate bid to win their first Sheffield Shield cricket title.

Thomson, who had a reputation for being anti-authority during his playing career, said he believed he could sort out the internal bickering which has hit Queensland's efforts in recent years.

"The only way you can play decent cricket is to get rid of all your gripes and get out there and play the game," he said.

"I am going to get the players aside before the start of the game to sit down and talk about our goals and whatever troubles they may have."

"If there is any disharmony there it won't last very long if I am around," said Thomson, a former Queensland captain.

Queensland, who lost to New South Wales in this year's final in March, have imported players like English all-rounder Ian Botham, Australian captain Allan Border and Thomson himself in past attempts to win Australia's major domestic cricket prize.

The recent resignation of coach Richie Robinson and the shock retirement of former test batsman Greg Ritchie, who took over from Border as Queensland captain last season, left preparations for the 1990-91 season in tatters.

"I for one would love to have Greg Ritchie back but it's up to Fat Cat (Ritchie) what he wants to do," Thomson said.

"He has obviously got his differences but I still think he has a lot to offer. I would like to have a little chat with him. I think any state in Australia would like to have him playing for them."

Thomson, 39, said he would also try to dissuade former test paceman Craig McDermott from taking up an offer to play with Tasmania.

Thomson's pace bowling partnership with Dennis Lillee in the 1970s was one of the most feared in test cricket history. He took 200 test wickets.

Hohns, who first played for Queensland in 1972-73, retired from the game shortly after returning from England in 1989 where he played a significant part in Australia's 4-0 Ashes victory. The 36-year-old player will not be available for Australia next season.

## Da Silva faces Smith

BOLOGNA, Italy, July 17. (Reuters) Brazilian sprinter Robinson da Silva, the World Cup gold medalist over 200 metres in 1989, takes on former world record holder Calvin Smith in the 100 metres at the athletics Grand Prix in Bologna tomorrow.

New American sprint star Michael Johnson, fastest man this year over 200, was also to have run the 100 metres in the Italian leg of the Grand Prix circuit, organisers said.

But Johnson, who took part in an international meeting in Barcelona last night, returned to the United States with many of the top American athletes including Carl Lewis ahead of the Good-

will Games in Seattle starting on Friday.

Also running the 100 metres are Frenchman Bruno Marie-Rose and Italy's Stefano Tilli, two of Europe's best exponents at the distance.

American Danny Harris, who ran the season's fastest time of 47.49 seconds last week in Lausanne, leads the field in the 400 metres hurdles.

The entry for the 110 hurdles, which does not count towards Grand Prix points, includes Kenaldo Nebemah, the only man to have broken the 13 seconds barrier apart from fellow American Roger Kingdom, the world record holder. Kingdom dropped out through injury.

(See also Page 19)

## US tipped to win Federation Cup

ATLANTA, July 17. (UPI) The US squad, led by Wimbledon runnerup Zina Garrison and rising star Jennifer Capriati, was installed yesterday as the top seed for the Federation Cup, the women's tennis equivalent of the Davis Cup.

Spain, led by Arantxa Sanchez Vicario and Conchita Martinez, was seeded second behind the US team, followed by Czechoslovakia, Austria, the Soviet Union, France, Italy and West Germany.

The United States — led by Chris Evert, who was playing her last official tournament and Martina Navratilova — won the tournament for the 12th time in its 27-year history last fall, beating Spain 3-0 in Tokyo.

This year's tournament is plagued by the absence of many of the biggest names in women's tennis, including Navratilova, world No. 1 Steffi Graf, Gabriela Sabatini and Monica Seles.

Graf is using the time between Wimbledon and the US Open to have an operation to correct a sinus problem, while Navratilova said she needed to rest following her record ninth triumph at Wimbledon.

Sabatini, who won an exhibition tournament in Tokyo Sunday, also dropped out of the Federation Cup, claiming she is exhausted, while Seles opted not to play for Yugoslavia because it might prevent her from representing the United States in future Federation Cups.

Seles, 16, a native of Belgrade, has applied for US citizenship.

Only four of the world's top 10 are scheduled to play, including No. 4 Garrison, No. 7 Sanchez, No. 8 Mary Joe Fernandez and No. 10 Martinez.

In all, 47 teams are vying for the title and a \$450,000 purse. The single-elimination playoffs include two singles and a doubles match.

The US team — Garrison, Capriati, Mary Joe Fernandez and Gigi Fernandez — is heavily favoured for its first-round match against the winner of a qualifying bout between Poland and Uruguay.

The Polish team is anchored by Katarzyna Nowak, an

## SPORTS BRIEFS

## Soccer friendly

LONDON, July 17. (Reuters) Cameroon, heroes of the recent World Cup, will have a chance to avenge their quarterfinal defeat when they meet England in a friendly match early next year. The two teams have lined up a provisional match at London's Wembley stadium on February 6.

## Swedish striker

PARMA, Italy, July 17. (Reuters) Italian soccer club Parma, newly promoted to the first division, said yesterday they had agreed to buy Swedish World Cup striker Tomas Brodin from Norrkoping.

## Corinthians win

RIO DE JANEIRO, July 17. (Reuters) Midfielder Neto, controversially omitted from Brazil's World Cup squad, scored the opening goal despite a swollen ankle as Corinthians beat Santos 3-1 on Sunday.

## Hungarian player

ROME, July 17. (AP) Italian First Division club Bologna has acquired Hungarian midfielder Lajos Detari for \$5 billion lire (\$4.25 million) from his Greek team, Olympiakos. Italian sports papers reported yesterday. Detari played the last two seasons for the Greek team from Piraeus.

## Britain tour

WELLINGTON, July 17. (Reuters) The New Zealand Rugby League faces a loss from the Britain tour that ended last Sunday, but executive director Mike Knowles said today it could be eight weeks before the final shock is known.

## New laws

ZURICH, July 17. (Reuters) Changes to the laws of soccer, including an amendment to the offside rule and a clampdown on violent play, will come into effect on July 29, the International Football Federation (Fifa) said today. Under the new laws, agreed by Fifa's rule-making body during the Italy World Cup finals, forwards in line with the last but one defender will no longer be deemed offside.

## Soviet players

ATHENS, July 17. (Reuters) Top Greek soccer club Olympiakos Piraeus said on Tuesday, they had signed three Soviet players, including World Cup stars Oleg Protasov and Igor Dobrovolsky.

## King, Douglas deal announced

NEW YORK, July 17. (AP) Heavyweight champion James "Buster" Douglas reached a settlement today with promoter Don King which clears the way for an Oct 25 title defence against Evander Holyfield in Las Vegas.

The deal was officially announced at 9:42 am (1342 GMT) by US District Judge Robert W. Sweet as the trial entered its third week.

The deals were hammered out in a lengthy bargaining session which began over the weekend and ran into late Monday.

Under the settlement, King will not be involved in promoting Douglas' first title defence, said Douglas' manager, John Johnson.

The Oct 25 bout with Holyfield will be held at Steve Wynn's Las Vegas, Nevada, Hotel-Casino, The Mirage, he said.

The hotel was Douglas' co-defendant in the suit filed by King. Douglas has not fought since his stunning Feb 10 knockout of ex-champion Mike Tyson in Tokyo.

The spiky-haired promoter will be involved in handling Douglas' matter, although not as the champion's promoter, Johnson said. King will then become Douglas' promoter as per the deal cut before the Tyson upset.